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BOOK NOTES

CONSISTING OF

LITERARY GOSSIP, CRITICISMS OF BOOKS AND
LOCAL HISTORICAL MATTERS CONNECTED
WITH RHODE ISLAND.

8
1891

VOL. VIII.

JANUARY TO DECEMBER INCLUSIVE, 1891.

PROVIDENCE:

SIDNEY S. RIDER.

1891.

1891

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BOOK NOTES

HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

No. 61 SNOW STREET, (Winthrop Building,) PROVIDENCE, R. I.

Entered as Second Class Matter, at the Providence, R. I. Post Office.

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Fortnightly.

SATURDAY, JAN. 3, 1891.

VOL. 8.
No. 1.

PINE HILL SKETCHES.—No. 4.

Here we are again at Mill Brook Farm. 'Tis midwinter. The leafless trees are tenanted by songless birds; the shrubs by the rollway where the waters tumble over the rocks, are covered with fantastic frost-work; the pine grew white in a single night. It was but the other day that we wandered together over the hill whereon the Indian's Head rests,—huge rocks thrown together by the Great Designer at the time when He made this hill resemble in the mind's eye the head of an Indian lying prone upon the ground; a tuft of pines forms the scalp-lock of the recumbent Sachem; we call it Miantinomi in repose. 'Twas here that we sat half reclining, and gazing upon the gorgeous foliage which clothed the forests before us, and you said it was as if a rainbow had dropped from the clouds and lay circling the lake. All is now changed. The Maker has gathered the beautiful leaves, the bees are no longer humming in the lindens, the song-sparrow no longer gladdens us with his beautiful note,—the wood-choppers have come; they dwell in their rude and lonely huts in the forests. We watch them and marvel at their matchless skill; the monarch of the forest yields to their sturdy stroke and falls gracefully in the precise spot where the woodman intended that it should lie. In a twinkling it is transformed into merchantable

lumber,—a thing of beauty has become a thing of use; it has not perished, but has found its proper place in this utilitarian world of ours. But just look at those rugged fellows, saw you ever before such men, active, powerful, and happy? No dyspepsia ever worries them; and such faces,—look at those cheeks, ruddy not with the flush of wine but from the quick flow of the red blood! how much would you give for such a pair, my poor, pale shopkeeper? But look at his clothes, you say. Well, look at them. An honest heart throbs beneath his rugged flannels,—but remember that here in Pine Hill woods the crack thing among men in the matter of dress is a pair of trousers out at each knee and with two rents at the seat of understanding; in summer a ventilating straw hat with but half a crown ornaments the head of the wearer; unlike its city cousin, it acts not as an impediment to the absorption of ideas by the head which it half covers. "Think!" I hear you say in irony. "What nonsense! such men never think." Ah! there's where you make a mistake,—these men do think. Did I not tell you that Contemplation was born here at Mill Brook on that hill-top beneath its crest of pines, and that just across the lake beneath that broad spreading white oak Meditation first saw the light, while Reflection, the foster brother of the twain, sprang from the glittering surface of the waters between? Let me

tell you of such a man right here in this wild wilderness—tall, slender, lithe, graceful in movement, his hair cropped close, and his moustache in fine form, erect he stands before you. He hesitates a little in his speech, but why he should I never could understand, for good sense flows with every wag of his tongue, and neither vulgar nor profane words ever soil the tip end of it. He reads the English language with fluency, but he reads also the French and the Latin, and he can show you the insect which makes the swamp cheeses grow on the wild azalias. The truth is, one must summer and winter these fellows to find out their qualities. They are shy, and like the trout hide themselves when a swelling youth from the town comes out. They must believe in you before they will give you a chance to believe in them. Not very long since BOOK NORES received a letter from one of these men. He is a farmer, and the very man whom I have described above. It relies upon the spirit of forgiveness in the writer of the letter for its breach of confidence in giving you a portion of it. Here it is:

"I have been interested in Proctor's "Other Worlds than Ours." A great many statements are made, which I take for granted, as I have no means of testing them, but one of his statements has raised a question in my mind. He says, "Jupiter presents the following physical habitudes: He has a diameter of 85,000 miles, or nearly eleven times as large as the earth's, a surface 115 times larger, and a volume more than 1200 times larger. Gravity at his surface is about two and a half times as great as on our earth's, so that such creatures as exist around us would find their weight much more than doubled if they were removed to Jupiter.

* * He rotates on his axis in less than ten hours, (9 hours, 55 minutes, 26 seconds,) so that the length of his day is considerably less than half of ours." When I come to test these propositions by the rule given me in Loomis's *Differ-*

ential Calculus, which is in these words:

"The attraction of a sphere varies as the quantity of matter divided by the square of the distance from the centre. The attraction of a sphere for a particle of matter situated without it is the same as if all the matter of the sphere were collected into the centre." Now by the rules laid down by Steele and Quackenbos in their *Systems of Philosophy*, it seems to me that Proctor must be in error. Steele in his *Fourteen Weeks in Astronomy* gives the mass of Jupiter as 301 times that of the earth. As the diameter of Jupiter is eleven times that of the earth his gravity would be $301 \div 11^2$ or 2.48 times that of the earth. This, at first thought, would seem to prove his statement that a body removed from the earth to Jupiter would find its weight much more than doubled. But there is another factor to be considered: Proctor says, "He rotates on his axis in rather less than ten hours," which is about 2.418 times as fast as this earth. When we consider that its diameter is eleven times that of the earth, we see that the surface of Jupiter at its equator moves with a velocity 26.6 times that of the earth at its equator. Again, Steele in his "*Fourteen Weeks in Natural Philosophy*" says, speaking of centrifugal force: "As this force acts contrary to that of gravity, it diminishes the weight of all bodies at the equator where it is greatest 1-297. Quackenbos in his *Natural Philosophy* gives the law of centrifugal force thus:

"The centrifugal force of a revolving body increases according to the square of its velocity."

Allowing Steele and Quackenbos to be correct, the centrifugal force of Jupiter would be $1-297 \times 26.6^2 \div 2.48 = 707.736$ which means that the centrifugal force would lighten a body weighing 736 lbs. by 707 lbs., so that it would weigh only 29 lbs.

This force acting at the equator, would so transform that planet that it could no

longer be recognized as a globe. The direct force of gravity at the poles being more than twenty-five times as great as at the equator, would so compress the poles that Jupiter would resemble in shape a disk more than a globe. There must be something wrong. Or must we consider that he is much smaller and of greater density than astronomers tell us, and that his great size is entirely owing to a vast cloudy envelope. Here I have jumped out of the frying-pan into the fire, by trying to prove that "such creatures as exist around us would *not* find their weight much more than doubled if they were removed to Jupiter. What does Quackenbos mean by velocity? Does he mean the number of revolutions made in a given time? If so, the centrifugal force would be the same on all parts of the earth; besides he says, speaking of a sphere revolving on its axis, "all parts of the surface have to complete their revolution in the same time; therefore, as the parts lying on the equator are further from the axis and have a greater distance to go, they must travel faster than the rest. Now we have seen that the centrifugal force increases with the square of the velocity; and therefore, at the equator it will be stronger than at any other part of the surface." Hence, I conclude that by velocity, he means the distance the surface travels in a given time. Then, surely, I must have understood his law, but I cannot reconcile the three authorities."

And thereupon he asks the writer of BOOK NOTES to explain the matter. It would have been as easy to said writer to have analyzed the Koch Lymph, so he referred the communication to Professor Upton, of Brown University, who at once explained the difficulty to my friend by showing him that Quackenbos had given but half the rule. Whereupon my friend closes his communication thus:

"Quackenbos's law only applies while the radius remains unchanged. The

more complete law when the radius is variable, is: The centrifugal force increases according to the square of the velocity, but diminishes according to the length of the radius. Hence, my result is eleven times too large. Proctor is correct, and Jupiter is saved from centrifugal destruction; neither can the dignity of his size be disputed. Quackenbos must have known the whole law. What reason could he have had for not publishing the whole? Some of the examples given by him have a variable radius and consequently require the whole law to determine the force exerted."

Now, my young friend, what do you think? Do these fellows think, or do they not think? And yet you wonder why I love to go into these solitudes. But why should you wonder? This sketch ought to inform you. I know these men and women. I know every tree in the forest, and where great beds, yes, beds of cardinal flowers grow for my especial happiness; and there are none to molest nor make me afraid. Why, then, should I not love the repose of Mill Brook Farm?

The Brown & Sharpe Manufacturing Co. seem to be laboring especially in opposition to the Weekly Payments bill. Such legislation is of course extremely vicious; but this corporation having so long been blessed with protective tariff laws, are debarred the only logical defence against it. This corporation has under the Australian ballot possibly half a dozen votes; their "help" cast 1050 votes. The most obscure member of the General Assembly will ultimately discover this fact. But then we are assured that the "help" do not wish to be paid often,—it is bothersome to take care of their money. This is so like ordinary mortals that one is not surprised at it.

The greatest expectation prevails in reference to the Talleyrand Memoirs, which the *Century* begins with the January number.

The *Telegram* gave us the other day the following *Toast*. It so strongly resembles Mr. Edward Coate Pinkney's exquisite poem, entitled *A Health*, that BOOK NOTES reproduces the twain in parallel columns; but one is poetry, the other is nonsense. It is strange that people will do these things. Why can't they let a good thing alone? Pinkney wrote the song to the beautiful girl Georgiana McCausland, who became his wife for but two short years.

[From the Evening Telegram, Providence, December 16, 1890.]

A TOAST.

I fill this cup
To one made up
Of all the womanly graces;
With form most fair,
Beautiful hair,
And the sweetest of female faces.

Her lovely eyes,
Like tropic skies,
Smile on me in their gladness;
May naught severe
E'er bring a tear
To shadow them with sadness.

Her face so pure
In each contour,
Is heavenly in its beauty;
My heart is taught
In secret thought
To love her is its duty.

From ruby lips
To finger tips
She's made of mortal blisses;
Angels above
Who worship love
Would languish for her kisses.

I quaff this cup
To one made up
Of grace found in no other
In whose true eyes
God's own love lies—
I drink it to my mother.

[From Griswold's Poets and Poetry of America, 1812.]

A HEALTH.

I fill this cup to one made up
Of loveliness alone.
A woman of her gentle sex
The seeming paragon;
To whom the better elements
And kindly stars have given
A form so fair, that, like the air,
'Tis less of earth than heaven

Her every tone is music's own,
Like those of morning birds,
And something more than melody
Dwells ever in her words:
The coinage of her heart are they,
And from her lip each flows
As we may see the burdened bee
Forth issue from the rose.

Affections are as thoughts to her,
The measures of her hours;
Her feelings have the fragrancy,
The freshness of young flowers;
And lovely passions changing oft,
So fill her, she appears
The image of themselves by turns,—
The idol of past years!

Of her bright face, one glance will trace
A picture on the brain,
And of her voice in echoing hearts
A sound must long remain;
But memory, such as mine of her,
So very much endears,
When death is nigh my latest sigh
Will not be life's, but hers.

I fill'd this cup to one made up
Of loveliness alone,
A woman, of her gentle sex
The seeming paragon—
Her health! and would on earth thou
stood,
Some more of such a frame
That life might be all poetry,
And weariness a name.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Jan. 3, 1890.

In 1726 Captain George Shelvocke made a voyage round the world, or rather in that year published an account of such a voyage. In it he told of the great gold fields of California, but it took 125 years for mankind to get the idea into their heads.

In Niles's Register, Nov. 5, 1825, appears this paragraph, taken from a London (English) paper: "It has lately been discovered by Mr. Rogers's microscope, that the morbid secretions in the human subject, as the pus of consumption, and of cancer, &c., are actually masses of animalculæ." Here is the *bacillus tuberculosis* of Dr. Kock, actually discovered 57 years before Kock's discovery of it in 1882. It is an excellent illustration of the quick dissemination of medical science.

It is almost singular that so few personal memoirs of the Revolutionary war have been preserved to us, when we consider the immense numbers of the war of the Rebellion. In 1833, there was published at Albany, a small volume entitled, *The Sexagenary*, or Reminiscences of the Revolution. The author of the book was born in 1765; he was then ten years of age at the breaking out of the war. He dwelt with his father in the Mohawk Valley. The father entering at once into the military operations the boy followed and was present as an actor, or a spectator at all the stirring affairs from Fort Stanwix to Burgoyne's surrender. It is not so much the movements of the armies, which is told by the narrator as the personal adventures or movements of the people who lived thereabout. It is fortunate we are that this modest story has been preserved to us, for nowhere else can so peculiar a picture of the actual colonial life of the time be found. Mr. Joel Munsell reprinted in a beautiful edition the old *Sexagenary*. It can be found at 61 Snow street.

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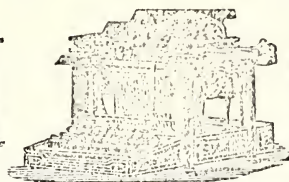
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BURGES, Tristram. memoir of, by Henry L. Bowen to which are added the most celebrated speeches of Mr. Burges; post, 8vo. Providence, 1835. \$7.50

FRIEZE'S Extension of Suffrage in Rhode Island, 1811—1842. The "Algerine" History of the Dorr War, \$2.50.

NEWPORT REUNION of the Sons and Daughters of, August 23, 1859, by Geo. C. Mason. 75c.

THE ACTS OF THE ELDERS, commonly called the BOOK OF ABRAHAM, to which is appended a chapter from the Book of Religious Errors for the meridian of Rhode Island. Sm. qto., 1842. \$1.25

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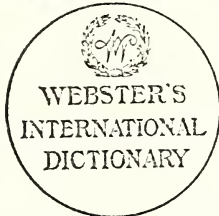


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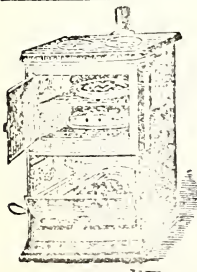
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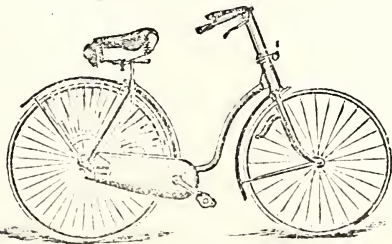
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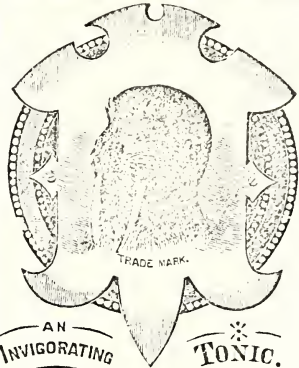
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BOOK NOTES

HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

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SATURDAY, JAN. 17, 1891.

VOL. 8.
No. 2.

A Providence Reprint of the First Edition of the Vicar of Wakefield.

The Sunday *Journal* had the other day an extraordinary article, taken from some other paper, entitled "Finds in Books." In it there is narrated a *find* by my former friend, Mr. George P. Philes, of a copy of the first American reprint of Goldsmith's Vicar of Wakefield. If the editor of the *Journal* had applied to the editor of BOOK NOTES, he would have learned a thing or two about this matter, his ignorance of which the article that he prints discloses. This same first edition of the Vicar of Wakefield was reprinted here in Providence in two volumes, twelve mo., just as Goldsmith published it. Nothing can be more absurd than the statement that this book "may be said to possess a certain manuscript value," excepting the same writer's illustrations of the difference between it and the later editions. The book discloses a vast number of verbal changes made by Goldsmith, in which he corrects his diction, either by the elimination of words or by the exchanging of words for other synonymous words. The comparison is extremely interesting as showing how crude or harsh expressions were made agreeable by the continual hammering or filing of the author. Goldsmith did not publish off-hand the fine sentences which his books now disclose. They were the product of successive labors. Copies of

the Providence edition are of extreme rarity. I do not remember of having ever seen but a single copy. It is that kind of a book which has not yet attracted the attention of buyers of rare books. It was printed in two volumes, but paged continuously. The first nineteen chapters were comprised in the first volume; the chapters in the second volume beginning with one (1) again. This arrangement was not continued in all the subsequent editions. The "Contents," which was prefixed to the subsequent editions, is not in this "first" edition, and many whole paragraphs in it were stricken from the later editions. It is this which renders the book curious and interesting.

There is another tale in this *Journal* article, which is stupendous without an explanation. It was that Mr. George Brinley bought a book, the "Laws of New York, 1693," for \$16.00, which was sold at the sale of the Brinley Library for \$1600.00. This story I can match by one quite as curious. I bought one morning from a basket of old books standing at the door of a book shop on Westminster street, an old book for three (3) cents. This book was sold at this same Brinley sale for \$110.00. I sold the book soon after I bought it, in fact on the same day, for three (3) dollars. In the face of such a statement it might seem as if I did not know the value of the book, but it won't always do to judge by appearances. I

have never seen the day since that I would not have sold another copy of the same book for three dollars. There were conditions well understood at the time, and by some men now, why the prices realized at the Brinley sale were no criterion by which to judge of the value of books.

The fire at the Federal street school house was a stern warning to this city. It happened on Saturday, in the afternoon, when no schools were in session. If I believed in the intervention of Divine Providence in the affairs of men, (which I do not,) I should regard this, as an instance of such intervention. But the warning is there just the same and we should heed it. This building is four stories high. There are four school rooms on each the first, second and third story. The fourth is a hall in which every week the entire number of children assemble for every general exercise. There are 462 of them. It is positively frightful to contemplate what would inevitably have happened had this fire, which was in the basement at the front of the building, occurred while the schools were in session, and especially when these children were gathered together in the hall at the top of the building. This building ought to be indicted as a nuisance and condemned to some other use. Fire escapes are to be put upon it; but of what use in such a catastrophe would a fire escape be? The other day at the burning of the Burgess building on Westminster street, not nearly as high as this school house, grown women, less than a dozen in number, were in such a state of panic as to have rendered escape impossible, but for the coolness and courage of the firemen. But with these, nearly 500 children, what could the firemen have done? absolutely nothing; save only to watch the burning children on the various platforms. The whole policy of building such buildings for such purposes should be abandoned.

Smaller buildings and more of them and thus brought nearer to the homes of the children is the imperative necessity of the time.

THE BANES OF MATRIMONY.

The first folio Digest of the Laws of Rhode Island has a law relating to marriage. The first section reads: "That no person whatsoever shall marry with any Female unless he first procure *Banes* of matrimony." This seems comical enough, but it was all right as people then understood the word, although it has now come to possess quite a different meaning. The word now used is *bans*, but at that time, 1719, either of these three forms of spelling was allowable,—*ban*, *bann*, *banes*. Mr. Webster defines the word *bane*, thus: *ruin, destruction*, and quotes this line from Milton:

"The cup of deception spiced and tempered to their bane."

The other word, *ban*, Mr. Webster says, means among other things, "an interdiction, a prohibition," and again quotes Milton: "Under ban to touch." These are rather harsh meanings used with reference to a proposed marriage.

The town law for Providence required the "banes" to be set on some tree in the town street for fourteen days,—and one Henry Fowler was complained of as being "a person who had married with a Female" without this little formality. That a person who did not set up the "banes" came under the "ban."

It seems terrible to describe the touching matrimonial agreements which "person" sometimes makes with "a Female" by such fearfully suggestive names, yet so indeed it was. But the General Assembly was equal to the emergency. They got us poor devils out of all right by enacting as the fourth section of this matrimonial law these words: "That the Colonie's Seal shall have engraven thereon an anchor, and the motto thereof shall be the word HOPE."

A very effective article might be written against the "protective" system by just getting together the various ridiculous reasons, which have been assigned in its support for the past seventy-five years; not the least comical is the following list of resolutions adopted at a public meeting of merchants in New York city. Niles's *Register* says editorially, "the auction system as prosecuted by the enemies of the "*American System*," (that is of the "protective tariff,") British agents and others, is a most powerful obstacle to home industry.

1. Auctions are a monopoly, and like all monopolies unjust.
2. The commission under which an auctioneer acts is believed to be unconstitutional.
3. Auctions tend to concentrate the whole trade of the country in a few large cities.
4. Auctions are destructive to domestic manufacturers.
5. Auctions have been destructive to the regular American importers.
6. Auctions injure consumers generally by enhancing prices.
7. Auctions enables states to act in direct violation of the rights of sovereignty of other states
8. Auctions give dangerous facilities for the sale of contraband goods.
9. Auction have been found by the experience of other countries to be pernicious to internal trade.
10. Auctions by creating an unnatural competition cause more goods to be sold than ought to be.
11. Auctions produce all the pernicious effects of gambling
12. Auctions facilitate fraudulent bankruptcies.
13. Auctions enable rash or embarrassed individuals to destroy the regular sales of goods and render useless the calculations of the prudent.
14. Auctions have introduced an extraordinary system of injustice in the ap

propriation of the funds of insolvent debtors.

15. Auctioneers in many cases give their own notes for goods sold, and at the same time have the use of the very large amounts which they receive.
16. Auctions produce from their very nature the gross fraud of fictitious bidding.
17. Auctions have given rise to a most mischievous practice of selling more goods than are advertised
18. Auctions tend to destroy a regard for truth.
19. Auctions have resulted in a perceptible and increasing deterioration in the morals of mercantile men.

Did ever anybody read such utter nonsense, and yet that is just as sensible as three-quarters of what is now written upon the same subject, and more sensible than the remaining quarter.

Mr. James N. Arnold has just issued the numbers of the *Narragansett Historical Register* for July and October, 1890. This brings volume 8 of that periodical to a close, and an elaborate index is given in the latter number. A paper in the July number entitled, "Rhode Islanders at Manhattan," compiled from the calendar of Dutch manuscripts at Albany by Mr. R. G. Huling, suggests an unusual number of historical conundrums, some of which are well worth studying. Some of the names are curious; for instance, Gysbert op Dyck married Katherine Smith, a daughter of Richard Smith, of the Block House fame, at Wickford; from this marriage came the Updikes, one of whom, a woman of unusual talent, married Giles Goddard, and gave birth to William Goddard, who established the first newspaper in Providence. This woman did a very extraordinary thing; it was nothing less than the republication of the "Letters of Lady Wortley Montagu," here in Providence, in 1766, which fact is evidence of her intellectual taste. There is

another interesting fact connected with this young Goddard and his mother. When the Providence Gazette was began, the office of publication was announced as near the "Golden Eagle." At that period, the streets being unnamed and unnumbered, the principal business houses adopted some symbolic sign. This Golden Eagle was the symbolic sign of Joseph and William Russell. Soon after this, young Goddard adopted a symbol sign for himself and his mother; it was "Shakespeare's Head"—another proof of intellectual taste. This celebrated symbol sign has always been supposed to have belonged to John Carter, and so indeed it did, but Mr. Carter acquired it from the Goddards. Thus you see how easy it is for garrulous age to wander from the questions at issue, back among the forgotten things of local history. I started with the intention of commending Mr. Arnold's modest magazine to the kindly support of all those who delight in honest effort, and see whither it led me! It is a quarterly at \$2.00 per year.

THE SEVEN MILE LINE.

There is scarcely a landmark used in the early records of Providence so often referred to as this Seven Mile Line. This line was established June 4th, 1660, according to Mr. Knowles, "beginning seven miles west of Fox's Hill and running north to Pawtucket river and south to Pawtuxet river." Why this precise distance was selected is not yet known, but that it was selected there is no question. In the division of this territory into towns in February 1730, a point of departure is used by the General Assembly, which indicates it (that point) to be the original starting point of the Seven Mile Line. The towns of Scituate and Glocester were incorporated, and the beginning of a dividing line between them was declared to be "the bounds and monument there made and erected on the aforesaid Seven Mile Line." This shows

the erection there of a monument and a bound before that date. It is not, indeed, precisely due west from Fox Hill or Fox Point Hill, as it is now called, being a trifle to the northward. This bound and monument must have been upon the eastern margin of Moswansicut Pond and possibly within sight of the Smithfield seminary. The Seven Mile Line was laid down to run north and south, but it does not correspond exactly with those two points of the compass. That part of the line running north was declared to reach the Pawtucket river; it really reached what is now called Branch river, which is a tributary of what is now called Blackstone river, but which was then called Pawtucket river. This was in 1660. Before this period another line called the Four Mile Line, is sometimes referred to in the ancient papers, but of its origin we do not yet know. If the City of Providence would print its early records we might learn a great deal of her early history, which is now involved in obscurity, and the materials for which are becoming year by year less in numbers.

Some curious pages of shorthand writing which exist in some of the early record books of the town of Warwick have long attracted attention here. No one has ever been able to read them. Recently a page has been reproduced by photolithographic process, and published in the Phonographic Magazine for November, in the hope that some phonographic scholar will be able to read it. It will be remembered that Roger Williams was a short-hand writer, but this is not his work, nor do I believe it to be Mr. Gorton's, but it must have been, I believe, contemporary with them.

Lee & Shepard's "Good Company Series" has been enriched by the addition of a capital story, written by J. T. Trowbridge, entitled the *Three Scouts*. It was first published in 1864, the great year of the great rebellion.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Jan. 17, 1890.

It is odd to read in the latest *London Illustrated News* an article illustrative of certain things and places in extreme South Africa, in which the familiar names of "Wood River Junction" and "Hope Valley" occurs. This would be inexplicable did we not know that some Rhode Island boys were running ostrich farms and doctor's shops, and such like things, in that far distant land.

There was published at Madrid in 1791 an Almanac—something like the Almanac Gotha—which contains the personal details of all Governments. It has only this with reference to the United States:

Estados Unidos de la America
Septentrional.

Jorge Washington, Presidente del Congreso, nació en 11 de Febrero de 1732.

In one of his letters to Gov. Winthrop, Roger Williams speaks thus about his brother Robert: "My brother runs strongly to Origen's notion of universal mercy at last against an eternal sentence." Thus the brother of Roger Williams was the first Universalist in Rhode Island. This was in 1660.

It seems a comical title for a law, and yet it exists in several of the early Folio Digests of Rhode Laws. "An act for Docking, and Cutting off Estates Tail." A similar law still exists but under a different and possibly less significant title.

Twenty-five cents will be paid for a copy of the *Providence Daily Journal* for July 24, 1889, at 61 Snow street.

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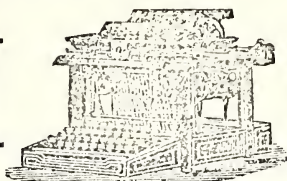
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FRIEZE'S Extension of Suffrage in Rhode Island, 1811—1842. The "Algerine" History of the Dorr War, \$2.50.

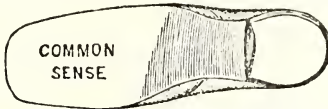
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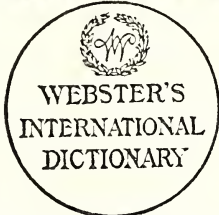
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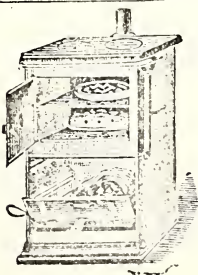
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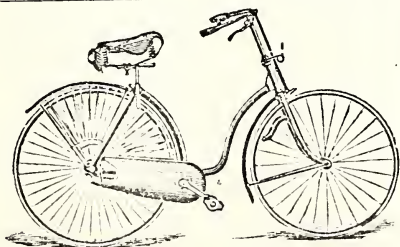
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SATURDAY, JAN. 31, 1891.

VOL. 8.
No 3.

Mr Charles Francis Adams's Statement of the Copyright Case of Lawrence vs. Dana in his recent Biography of Mr. Dana

—
This case is of course now history, but the law of copyright is still a living question; and whether it is what Mr. Adams has made it appear to be in his life of Dana, is the inquiry of the present writer. BOOK NOTES takes for its text a couple of paragraphs from two reviews of the book. The first, from the *Providence Journal*, speaks of the case as "an acrimonious controversy with William Beach Lawrence over Wheaton's *International Law*, the "masterly" report on which is given *entire* in the appendix." The second, is from the *Nation*. In speaking of Adams's comparison of Dana with John Adams the reviewer says: "Such personal opinions may well be allowed to pass unnoticed in view of the 'thorough' way in which the biographer has handled the once vexed question of Mr. Dana's alleged infringement of Lawrence-Wheaton copyright." Assuming that the *Journal* writer did not pun on the word "masterly," but used the word in its ordinary sense, and that the writer in the *Nation* intended the word "thorough" to mean thoroughly good, BOOK NOTES comes to the conclusion that either it does not understand Mr. Adams's statement of this case, or those writers did not. It therefore sets

forth its views. The statement made by the *Journal* that the master's report is given entire by Mr. Dana is not true, only fragments are given.

The case arose in this way. Lawrence had been a life long friend of Wheaton and his family; had assisted him in the preparation of every edition of his *International Law*. Wheaton died leaving his family in almost destitute circumstances. In 1855, Mr. Lawrence for the assistance of the family, edited without compensation an edition of Wheaton's book. It brought them a handsome return. In 1863, Lawrence repeated the operation, which resulted likewise in a handsome return. Both editions were published by Little, Brown & Co. Mr. C. C. Little was the senior partner in this publishing firm, and had married one of the Wheaton daughters. A rupture took place between Little and Lawrence, which resulted in the selection of Dana as the editor of another edition, which Little desired to publish. The copyrights of both editions, both the text and Lawrence's notes, were owned by Mrs. Wheaton. Before Mr. Little moved in the matter Lawrence had obtained an agreement drawn by Prof. Parsons to the effect that "no use of Mr. Lawrence's notes in a new edition (should be made) without his written consent, and Mrs. Wheaton will give Mr. Lawrence the right to make any use he wishes of his own notes." This

agreement is the one referred to in the following article as of 14 June, 1863.

In 1866 Dana's edition was published. In his preface Dana said, "This edition contains nothing but the text of Mr. Wheaton according to *his last revision*, (that of 1846,) his notes and the original matter contributed by the editor;" and further, Mr. Dana said: "the notes of Mr. Lawrence do not form any part of this edition." * * An examination of the two books convinced Mr. Lawrence that Dana had not truthfully stated the fact, and hence the suit:

The case was tried in the U. S. Circuit Court, Boston, before Judges Clifford and Lowell, and resulted in a decision wholly in Mr. Lawrence's favor. The respondents alleged fraud on the part of Lawrence in obtaining the memorandum of June 14, 1863, but the opinion of the judges was, "the respondents have failed to prove that the complainant was guilty of any fraudulent misrepresentation or concealment"—(Opinion p. 17). They then undertook to break down Mrs. Wheaton's copyrights of 1855 and 1863, and so destroy the memorandum. The judges said: "Stated in brief words, the conclusions of the court are that the copyrights are valid and that the agreement set forth in the memorandum is binding"—(Opinion p. 24). The court then came to the question of infringement and entered upon an elaborate and careful review of the case in all its aspects and decided thus: "The court is of the opinion that many of the notes presented in the edition edited by the respondent (Dana) do infringe the corresponding notes in the two editions annotated by the complainant (Lawrence), and the respondent (Dana) borrowed very largely the arrangements of the antecedent edition, that of 1863,) as well as in the mode in which the notes in that edition are combined and connected with the text"—(Opinion p. 42). The judges further said: Details have been examined as far as

practicable consistent with the claims of other official duties, but the judges are of the opinion that they should be further examined and the results classified." The judges thereupon described the kind of annotations which did infringe, thus:

"Notes consisting wholly of citations found in the corresponding notes of the complainant do infringe his rights as explained and defined by the court though many of them are unaccompanied by the extracts collected and presented in the next preceding edition."

"Notes consisting of authorities, or collections of authorities copied in like manner as described in the preceding proposition, and without remarks or comments, do also infringe the complainant's rights, though they are found inserted in or prefixed or appended to notes otherwise not objectionable."

"Notes of which the whole or some substantial and material part is condensed from the corresponding notes in the preceding edition, or from the extracts therein printed and published without any marks of original labor, or of any such labor, except the study of the note copied and adopted, do also infringe the complainant's rights."

"Notes partly original and partly copied from the preceding edition do not infringe except for the matter copied."

The cause was referred to a master for his examination, and report *in conformity to the opinion and directions of the court*—(Opinion p. 46). Mr. Henry W. Paine was appointed the master.

Concerning this decision Mr. Adams thus discourses: "While in the absence of any reversal of this decision by a court of appeal it cannot be asserted that it was not sound in point of law; * * It was made to turn upon a very narrow construction of the law of copyright; * * it was the decision of a "case" judge * * he (the Judges) thoroughly belittled the question; * * it was something new in the way of copyright; * * if an absurdity was not reached it was something which greatly resembled an absurdity; * * it is questionable whether in the hands of a Marshall another and wholly different result might not have

been reached." (v. 2, pp. 314, 315). Book NOTES will suggest a case decided by the U. S. Supreme Court, the decision signed by Chief Justice Marshall. It is the case *Wheaton, v. Peters*. The same Henry Wheaton, whose *International Law* was in Dana's case the subject of controversy. Wheaton had been reporter of the U. S. Supreme Court. He had published and copyrighted twelve volumes, when Peters reprinted the opinions and "the abstract or syllabus at the head of each case, the statement of facts of the case, the marginal notes, the index and the order and arrangement of the whole." (*Report of Case, 1834*, p. 17). The court held that "no reporter has, or can have any copyright in the written opinions delivered by this court," (page 108,) but in every other respect the court sustained Mr. Wheaton's claim provided he had complied with the statute, and left it to a jury to determine that question. Marshall said, "Does not a man who imitates a machine, profit as much by the labor of another as he who imitates or republishes a book?"

"An author has by the common law a property in his manuscript, and there can be no doubt that the rights of the assignor of such manuscript would be protected in a court of chancery."

"This protection was given as well to books published under such circumstances as to manuscript copies."—(page 102).

"That every man is entitled to the fruits of his own labor must be admitted."—(page 100).

Judge Clifford and Lowell said, "No man is entitled to avail himself of the previous labors of another for the purpose of conveying to the public the same information."—(Opinion, p. 45).

In the Dana case Lawrence was denied any right to the original book, but protected in his own contributions to it.

In the Wheaton case Wheaton was denied any right to the opinions, but protected in his own contributions to them.

After holding the case twelve years the master made his final report. Mr. Adams says, (page 324, v. 2) in January 1880, but this is an error; it was made in January 1881. On the following page Mr. Adams repeats the error as to this date, but on page 389 he gives it correctly. This report has never been printed. Mr. Adams gives a few extracts from it. He states it "amounted to a complete vindication of Mr. Dana (page 325), inasmuch as the 146 instances of alleged gross plagiarism and servile copying had dwindled down to fourteen instances of technical infringement of copyright." With the first sentence in his report the master annuls the decree of the court thus:

"The master has assumed that the Honorable Court did not mean to be understood as deciding that a citation by the respondents identical with one in a corresponding note of the complainant was necessarily an infringement of the rights of the latter, but that it might be an infringement upon sufficient evidence." This was precisely what the court did mean to be understood as deciding if one can understand the language in which the opinion is written.

It had been shown that nearly fifty typographical or clerical errors, which appeared in Mr. Lawrence's notes, had been perpetuated by Mr. Dana in precisely the same connection, and that in forty-five cases dates had been quoted by Dana in the precise form in which they were quoted by Lawrence varying the language just as he varied it. On this point the opinion of the court reads: "Instances quite numerous are also given where clerical and typographical errors and peculiarities including special translations are reproduced in the edition prepared by the respondent; and the court is reminded in argument that cases have arisen where the strongest proof of copying consisted "in the coincidence of errors." Where the question is whether the respondent in preparing his book had

before him and copied or imitated the book of the plaintiff it is manifest that this kind of evidence is the strongest proof short of direct evidence of which the fact is capable. (*Curtis on Copyright* 255)." Thereupon the master lays down in the face of the court this astounding proposition, "There are typographical errors in some of the citations in L. which are repeated by D. This fact is relied on as showing that D. simply transcribed from L. and did not consult the original. Such is undoubtedly the tendency of this fact. But the master has not regarded it as conclusive, for it might well be that one having taken with him to a library a citation found in L. or any other writer and having found the place and the doctrine which he was seeking, would omit to correct the erroneous citation."

And thus the master strikes out nearly a hundred notes, which were impeached by the opinion and as Mr. Adams says, "completely vindicates Mr. Dana." One might indeed take with him to a library a citation, and omit to correct the error, but would such a result be likely to happen with ninety-seven citations?

And this is what the writer in the *Providence Journal* styles "masterly" and the writer in the *Nation* styles "thorough."

Now comes the fitting end of all this disgraceful business. Mr. Adams says, (v. 2, p. 325): It (the Report) was at last filed on the 14th of the following January, (1881). There then remained nothing for the court to do but to hear both parties on the exceptions to the report, and after adopting amendments, if any, to make a final decree. The case could then be appealed to the Supreme Court. As to all the matters of fact the report of the master was like the verdict of a jury. But the report of the master is final, (p. 326.) In the face of such statements one would hardly believe that at the time when the master rendered his report Mr. Lawrence

was on his death-bed in New York, and died a few weeks later. He never saw the report, and of course could make no exceptions. The court was never asked to hear both parties, and in fact never did again hear either. No final decree was made, nor any appeal ever taken, and the most stupendous literary fraud ever attempted in this country went unwhipt of justice.

Mr Adams brings his statement of the case and his book to a close with a letter from Mr. T. K. Lothrop. Mr. Adams does not state that this gentleman was one of counsel in this case for Mr. Dana. Mr. Lothrop admits that "Mr. Lawrence's collections or citations are constantly reprinted (by Mr. Dana) exactly in the order in which they stand in the editions of Wheaton published under his (Lawrence's supervision."—(v. 2, p. 417.)

"This is however a technical illegality, for had Dana verified these lists, he might then have reprinted without reproach."

"* * \$250 paid — or some other equally accurate man would have rendered any suit impossible." I confess I do not quite understand such equity as that. Mr. Lothrop must mean that had Dana verified by the hand of another person and then used Lawrence's notes, detection would have been less easy, and direct evidence impossible. But how would it be in case of errors, fifty-seven of which Dana copied, and which the master in spite of the decree of the court struck out? Mr. Adams says concerning the decision, that if such is the law, no man can re-edit a book which has been previously edited by another; but it is apparent that if the law it as made here to appear. by Master Paine, Counsellor Lothrop and Biographer Adams, that such work as Lawrence did is incapable of protection under any existing copyright law, and yet Chief Justice Marshall decided in the Wheaton case, "Every man is entitled to the fruits of his own labor."

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Jan. 31, 1891.

The contemporaneous opinions of editors of newspapers makes interesting historical reading. Here is what the editor of *Niles's Register*, the leading political periodical of the time, said of the Webster and Hayne debates: "We cannot consistently give to Messrs. Hayne and Webster any further monopoly of our pages for the present. We have *extended* to them at a cost that may not often be incurred, or if so, is now due to other persons or productions. * * To the speech of Mr. Hayne just referred to Mr. Webster made a brief reply, but we doubt whether either has strengthened his precedent remarks, or weakened those of his adversary." This *brief reply*, now thought to be a masterpiece of logical reasoning, the *Register*, so far as I can discover, never printed, but two years later this

wise editor found it necessary to back and print a supplementary volume of the *Register* wholly devoted to this celebrated debate.

That veteran bookman, Sidney Rider, of Providence, is still at the front with his *BOOK NOTES*. Mr. Rider has the merit of fearlessness and incessant industry. What he knows he knows, and what he believes he speaks. For years he has been standing authority in all matters pertaining to the history of Rhode Island. He stands ready to pick up any gauntlet that rash assailants may shy into the arena. The writer who essays to discuss Rhode Island matters must look well to his facts. Woe be to him if he slips. Mr. Rider is after him and he is a rugged one. Here is another advantage in a small state. Its history and biography may be pretty thoroughly learned in one life time.—From *Light*, Worcester, 17 Jan., 1891.

It is not difficult to acquire a knowledge of Rhode Island history. The difficulty is that we have to *unlearn* so much.

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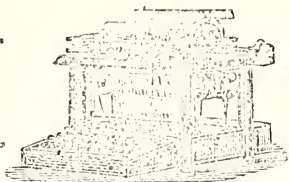
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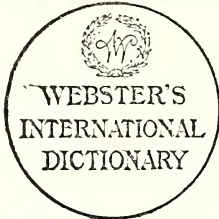


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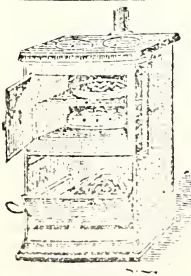
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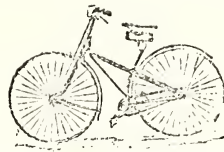
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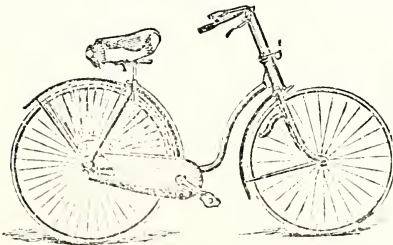
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Vol. 8.
No. 4.

The first volume of a genealogical work long since projected by Mr. James N. Arnold, entitled *Vital Record of Rhode Island*, has just been published. The period covered is 1636-1850. The towns included in this first volume are Warwick, East Greenwich, West Greenwich and Coventry. All the births, marriages and deaths recorded upon the respective records of each town have been copied and reproduced. Warwick was incorporated in 1647, East Greenwich in 1677, Coventry in 1741, and West Greenwich in the same year; so that it is not quite correct to say that these Vital Records go back to 1636. The earliest birth recorded in Warwick is that of Deborah Greene, born 1649. She was a daughter of Captain John Greene, who had twelve children. Mr. Austin gives the dates of the births of these children; but concerning four of them, to wit, John, William, Peter and Samuel, he is not correct, provided these records are correct. Dr. Turner's genealogy of the same family agrees with the record; but both Austin and Turner give the name Philip to the sixth child, and Dr. Turner says Philip married Caleb Carr, but the Record corrects both by giving this child's name as Phillis, who might have married Caleb Carr. This same error occurred in Mr. Austin's record of the third wife of the first John Greene of Warwick. Her name is given as Phillip. Mr. Austin gives

the date of death of the wife of John Greene as May 6, the Record gives it as May 17; which is correct I have no means of determining. I am only suggesting facts. The earliest marriage recorded in Warwick, or one of the earliest, is that of Thomas Greene, in 1659. According to the Records he married Elizabeth Greene, but Mr. Austin gives the lady's name as Elizabeth Barton, in which statement he is corroborated by Dr. Turner. The earliest birth which I have observed in Coventry was in 1716. How this is to be explained I do not know, for the town was not incorporated until 1741, yet great numbers of births, marriages and deaths appear in the Records before that year. This fact is true of West Greenwich, but not to so great an extent. These towns could have kept no records before they became towns. These things were not, however, for Mr. Arnold to consider; he undertook to print what the records contained. It was not his affair how things got into or did not get into the records.

It would be more correct to say that he has reproduced all names recorded from the earliest records down to 1850, rather than from 1636 to 1850. It has been a work of very great labor, and will be of much use to all those who seek for genealogical facts in those towns. The book and the page where each name is to be found in the original record is given in

most cases, so that oftentimes in case an error is suspected, an immediate reference can be had to the original entry by correspondence with Town Clerks. Separate indexes of names in each town are given, and indexes of localities. The grouping of births and deaths is at first confusing, but since the letter *d*, or the word *died*, is prefixed to certain names, we are left to the inference that all other names are births. In the future volumes it would be well to give the births separately. It seems singular that in entering upon the records these facts regarding so many persons, that the death by drowning of Zachary Rhodes, and of John Wickes by the Indians, and of Samuel Gorton, the founder of the settlement, should have been omitted. But Mr. Arnold cannot give us what is not on record, and we must be thankful that he has given us so faithfully as he appears to have done that which he has found recorded. The volume is a royal octavo of upwards of 600 pages. It is to be hoped that he will be enabled to go on with the work until the entire state is covered by his volumes.

Among the thirteen First Proprietors of these Providence lands was Stukeley Westcote. He was an Englishman from Devonshire, and seven or eight years the senior of Roger Williams. Mr. Westcote dwelt for several years in Providence. In 1648 he removed to Warwick, which town was so named the year before, and in which Mr. Westcote served his fellow settlers in every public capacity. Those who are familiar with the early history of Rhode Island have met Mr. Westcote's name in many places, but no extended account of him has been written. He dwelt in Warwick until the Indian war of 1676, when, with the last of his family, he fled to Portsmouth, on the Island, where he died, aged 85, in the following year. The Honorable ex-Judge J Russell Bullock, being allied to this family, has taken much interest in gathering the scattered

details of its history, and has privately printed the same under the title, "Incidents in the Life and Times of Stukeley Westcote with some of his Descendants." The volume is a handsome octavo of nearly 200 pages. It is genealogical in character, but a sufficient amount of biographical memoranda has been wrought into it to give it some general interest. The painstaking author is to be commended for his accuracy; but in one instance he touches us in a tender spot. He says Thomas Stafford built the *first* grist-mill in Providence. If this is true, what is to become of our ancient friend John Smith, the Miller, with his Town Grant? It is not proper to criticise a privately printed book, and I am not about to criticise this one, but I wish that Judge Bullock had examined more closely Samuel Gorton's career before he wrote the five lines concerning Gorton on page 17. I think I could convince him that things were different from what he now thinks they were. Judge Bullock printed but fifty copies of this book, each one numbered, and the whole edition has been disposed of

Mr. Justin Winsor, Librarian of Harvard College, has been writing from England a series of letters for the *Nation*. In his letter of January 5, 1891, he gives "English views of the copyright Act," and in it occurs this paragraph: "Taking people not having a personal (pecuniary) interest in the matter, as I hear the talk at the clubs and as I draw out views from such members of Parliament as I have met, the opinion is all but universal that the measure will not succeed. The argument among such indifferent (unbiased by pecuniary interest) persons is that, call it what you will, it is a "protective" measure and England is too far committed to Free Trade ever to break its record for a *single* interest, which is sure to be followed by the claim of innumerable other interests if a beginning is made." That is precisely the view which

BOOK NOTES has taken from the first concerning these International Copyright Laws, which those who are peculiarly interested, have been trying to force through Congress. Retaliation will surely follow the enactment of any such laws. There is another point touched by Mr. Winsor. He says: "most *unbiased* people think that the loss to British printers (by re-setting the types and printing English books in the United States) will be nothing so great as now." Why not come squarely to the issue. Do you advocate the principle of granting copyright protection to an English author, only on the condition of allowing American printers and book manufacturers to tax American readers?

Since the above was written, a vote has been reached in the Senate on the Frye amendment, and it was adopted. This vote sends the bill back to the House; but no sooner had this vote been taken than Mr. Sherman moved another amendment, which changed radically the essential principle of the bill, and pending discussion on this new amendment the bill went over. This must end the measure; for the bill could never get back to the House, through it, and back to the Senate and through it, before the expiration of the present Congress. It is practically the "protective tariff" bill introduced by Jonathan Chace, which if dead is well dead.

The *Journal* of the 8th inst. has an article entitled "Along the Blackstone," in which there is a picturesque sketch of Quinsnicket, a well-known romantic locality near Lonsdale. In this sketch appears "a bit of history which is taken from the *Pierce Genealogy*,"—at any rate, so wrote the writer of the article. This "bit of history" relates some incidents of the great Indian battle which was fought near the spot, known as Pierce's Fight; but it is not history at all; it was pure

fiction, written by myself, and so stated at the time; it was never pretended to be anything else; by turning to a file of this paper it will be found July 19, 1873, and entitled a *Legend*. The tales that Canonchet slept at that place (Quinsnicket) the night before the battle; that on the green-sward back of the rock he built his council fire and planned the fatal ambushade; or that he ever got into this "rock-house," are all imaginary, or as I then declared, *legendary*, the work of a youthful but lively fancy. This business of selling to the *Journal* its own columns is now carried on to quite a large extent. This instance is the third article of my own which has been re-sold by some one too lazy to work. One thing it has taught me,—not to mix fiction with fact, for there are very few people who can tell which is which.

The place in American Historical Literature which Mr. Bancroft's History of the United States will occupy is a question which must be determined by the criticisms which the coming years will surely disclose. In announcing the death of Mr. Bancroft, the *Nation*, in its issue of January 22, 1891, suggests some of these criticisms, which are of a very serious character; they will doubtless lead to others, and the result will enure to the accuracy of the historical statements. There seems to prevail certain ideas in the matter of criticism which are destructive of all real truth. One must not criticise the work of a woman, nor of an old man, nor of a sick man, and if one criticises the work of a living man it is laid to malevolence, and parties are formed; while if the author criticised is dead, one is at once charged with not daring to criticise while the author was here to answer. Of course it is idle to listen to these things, for we may be positively certain that when we are dead, whatever honest work we may have done will be certain to remain, working its way into the pages of the coming writers.

It is always pleasant to meet an old friend. So thought I when I picked up *St. Nicholas* and read a letter about an invention which was to be patented by a shoemaker in Texas, or somewhere else, called a "Garden Protector." It consisted of a stout stick strapped on the back of a hen's leg at such an angle (possibly scallene, being a hen's leg,) that the moment the hen began to scratch she would inevitably be walked out of the garden. How the mind runs back when one day I, a boy, carried to my excellent friend Thomas A. Jenckes, a copy of the *Knickerbocker*, in which I showed to him an engraving of an invention alleged to have been just then made by Mr. John Phoenix, and which he called his "patent hen persuader," the very thing which the letter in *St. Nicholas* informs us is about to be patented by a shoemaker at Hubbard City. Were Mr. Jenckes here to defend Mr. Phoenix's title to his funny joke this shoemaker would doubtless wish that he had stuck to his last.

The fondness which some writers have for using big words, or words not in common use, becomes always a serious blemish in their work, and illustrates not their learning but the silliness of the writers. The other day I picked up a novel and read half a dozen pages. It discoursed of a time when the lights in the sconce were extinguished; and of a place where the peasant trod less on the kibe of the peer; where the beak of the accipitrine and the legs of the gruine were common objects, where the gray locks of old were covered with a wimple of deep black, and where the tourbillons of Descartes was among the light amusements of the canaille. Of course I couldn't understand such things, nor can you, and there is no sense in writing them for either of us. Nothing is easier than to construct such sentences. Here is a little story of my own, it took just fifteen minutes research in an old dictionary. I doubt the correctness

of the grammar, but every word was in use not very long since, and some even now in England, and it forms a coherent story.

It was one day in June that a cuthe came to see us. This cuthe was evidently in deep dejection; a foreman of his from whom he had expectation, had disappointed him, in fact, he had been exheridated. To relieve in some measure his depression I proposed to sizzle along a staith of which I knew. He assented and taking a nepte of mine along we departed, he taking his cutty-gun and I my staff. Nepte plucked a confery as my cuthe called it, but which merely for diversion I maintained was a consoud. While in dispute in which I allowed myself to be exuperated, nepte tumbled into the burn along which we sizzled. Her skain floated away while I became inactious, but the cuthe implunged and meeverly and meet-erly brought nepte to my arms again well sourst, but otherwise unharmed.

Mr. Sidney S. Rider, in his Providence 'Book Notes' for December 6, 1890, examines with damaging results an alleged oil portrait of Roger Williams, to which the date 1644 is assigned. "It exists, and is now owned in Boston," where Mr. Rider has recently inspected it. He pursues it through all its transfers, and ends by confronting two engravings from it, in Gammell's 'Life' and Benedict's 'History of the Baptists'—1846 and 1848, respectively—with the portrait of Franklin in Watson's 'Annals' for 1830. The similitude is striking.—*From the Nation.*

This essay enlarged and corrected is now published in the series of *Rhode Island Historical Tracts*, being No. 2, second series.

Sampson, Murdock & Co. issue for the current year the *Providence Almanac*. It has all the excellent qualities of its immediate predecessors. Mr. White watches incessantly the change in the public requirements and anticipates them whenever he can do so.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Feb. 14, 1891.

The *Telegram* said in an editorial January 14, 1891, "The conditions of our fiscal existence and the theory of a single tax do not harmonize." Now would the writer of that paragraph please explain what it means?

Senator Aldrich favors the writer with some Remarks of his own on *Silver and the Currency*. The said writer possessing very little of either, ventures upon no views of his own, rather preferring to fall back upon the gifted orators of the Board of Trade. The said writer, however, hails with delight one evidence of returning sense on the part of Senator Aldrich, which these Remarks of his disclose. It is that he adopts as a part of his Remarks the views of one Grover Cleveland, laid down by that individual in 1835. *The world do move*.

Some unknown critic asks BOOK NOTES a number of curious questions concerning its article on the Roger Williams Portrait. One question was, why the word (*sic*) was used in certain sentences. It is a Latin word meaning "thus it is, or so it is," and is commonly used to denote an error, or a peculiar phraseology just preceding it, which was not the work of the present writer; it was so used in BOOK NOTES, an error just preceded it. BOOK NOTES had remarked the ambiguity in the use of the words "portrait and painting" by the Rev. Dr. Jackson. So my friend asks, why ambiguity? Did my friend never hear of a *painting* by Raphael known as the *Madonna di San Sisto*, and did my critic ever suppose that the face of the Madonna was an actual *portrait* of the mother of Jesus? Is there then no difference in the meaning of the words "painting" and "portrait"? A good many other questions raised by this correspondent he will find answered in the forthcoming R. I. Historical Tract, Second Series, No. 2, which will consist of the essay on the Williams portrait somewhat elaborated and annotated.

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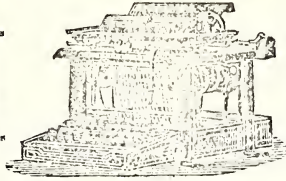
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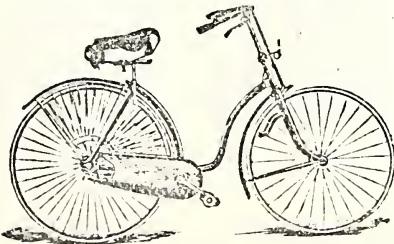
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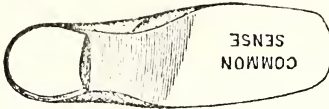
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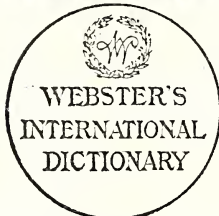


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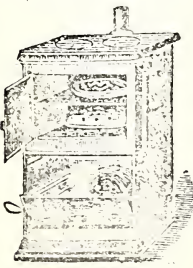
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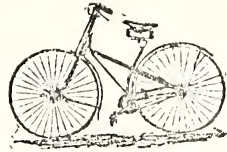
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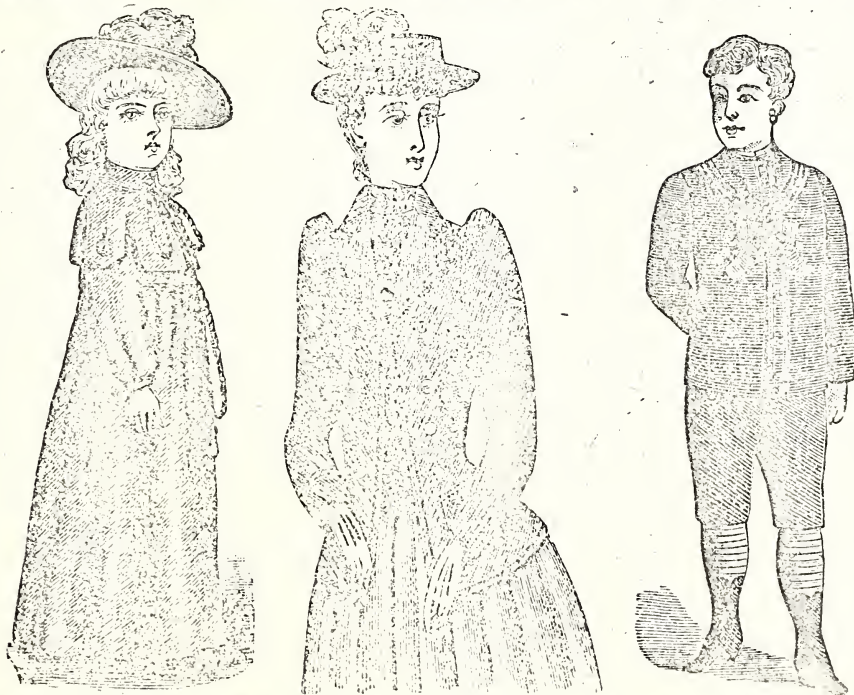
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SATURDAY, FEB. 28, 1891.

VOL. 8
No. 5

The History of Rhode Island, as it is Allowed to Appear in the Providence Journal.

From week to week appears in the *Journal* articles upon matters concerned more or less intimately with the local history of Rhode Island. Such was the case under its former owners. It was the boast of Governor Anthony that he would make it impossible to write the history of the State without resting upon the columns of this paper. How far he came from making good his intention it is not necessary for me now to inquire, but as to its present status in such matters I do not hesitate to affirm that it has reached a very low condition. As an historical authority it is positively dangerous. Here are some specimens from a recent article:

"It has generally been claimed that Roger Williams was a short-hand writer. * * But whether or not Roger Williams was a short-hand scribe, &c." "Mrs. Anne Sadlier left a memorandum, &c."

It is not open to question whether Williams was a short-hand writer. The fact rests on his own authority, and not upon any statement made by Mrs. Sadlier, as the *Journal* writer states. For the authority see *George Fox Digg'd*, p. 331. But Williams was never a short-hand scribe in the sense we now use the word.

The *Journal* article is entitled "A Short-hand Puzzle," and presents an illustration in certain characters, apparently phonographic, existing in one of the early record books of the town of Warwick. The illustration was copied from the Phonographic Magazine, without credit, and presents less than half of that which the magazine presented. No one has been able to read this writing, nor to fix the date when it was written, but it is written in a book containing certain other records bearing dates between 1719 and 1735.

The date of this "short-hand" suggested by the writer of the article is the early part of the 17th century. Then follows this extraordinary proposition: "Taking the age of the suggested system as a basis of research, it is found that a Mr. Samuel Gorton, with eleven others, bought of Miantinomi quite a tract of land." How does this appear? What has the age of this system to do with the fact that a Mr. Gorton bought land? There is too much profoundness in that logic for this small periodical to comprehend.

The writer continues: "He landed in Boston in 1637, but here was not the liberty he sought; there was but one church, and if he differed from that church he was seditious and mutinous. For this conduct he was soon fined and ordered to leave the colony in fourteen days, the

eventful result of which was the purchase and settlement of the town of Warwick."

The errors in this paragraph are as follows. Gorton did land at Boston, in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. But he was not fined by nor banished from that colony, he left it of his own free will and removed to the Plymouth Colony. From this place he was banished and fined. The reasons for these acts, set forth by Gorton himself, appear in the letter quoted above written to Morton. As bases of history, Mr. Gorton's statements have at least as much validity as any statement that his enemies can make, where official records are almost always lacking. The eventful result was *not* the purchase of Warwick, but simply the removal of Gorton and his family to Portsmouth. Warwick was *never* purchased. Showmet was the place which was purchased.

This writer then says, "Mr. Gorton wrote several important books, among which were *Hypocrisy Unmasked*," &c. This book was written in the bitterest of opposition to Mr. Gorton, and was by Edward Winslow. It is from this book that the enemies of Mr. Gorton have for more than two centuries drawn their abominable lies, wholly overthrown by the official records of Portsmouth. Besides this positive error is the omission to note among the writings of Gorton this *Letter to Morton*, which is exceeded in historical value only by *Simplicity's Defence*. It is a clearly written and very able document.

The ambiguous sentences of this writer concerning the birth of Williams are not here touched upon, for the reason that Mr. Waters has in a note published in the *Journal* corrected them.

It is inexcusable that the *Journal* lends itself to the perpetuation of such errors. The time for it has gone by; they certainly cannot be established, nor does the *Journal* wish them established. Then why print them? It must hurt in the end. Cer-

tainly, the writer of it did not intended to falsify Rhode Island history. Then why not be more careful?

The President of the *Journal* Corporation is said to be a manufacturer of certain kinds of light machinery. If he has any reputation in that line of work it is for accuracy of workmanship. Now why not apply a little of that principle to the *Journal* which he publishes and save BOOK NOTES the continual trouble of correcting a fresh crop with every issue.

Samuel Cranston held the office of Governor of Rhode Island by annual elections for thirty years, double the number of years which any other person ever succeeded in holding it. Before his time his uncle and his father had both held the office. A pamphlet written by Dr. Henry G. Turner, of Newport, has recently been published entitled, *The Two Governors Cranston*. It is largely genealogical, although not entirely so. The period of Governor Samuel Cranston was that succeeding the Andros Usurpation, 1698-1727. His chief labors consisted in re-organizing the colony after the trials which followed the writ of Quo Warranto and the Suppression of the Charter. He maintained the integrity of the boundaries of the colony against Connecticut, bringing the matter to a successful issue. He defended the colony against the charge of commissioning pirates; nevertheless, the Deputy Governor, John Green, did commission Captain Thomas Tew, for an account of whose operations, see Johnson's *History of the Pirates*. It was during Governor Cranston's incumbency that the Episcopal Church was established here, although personally he was not identified with it. The laws of the colony were codified and published and by his personal labor was much improved. Paper money, the curse of the colony, was first issued, and the

first printing press set up; commerce flourished and the people were apparently prosperous and happy. This Cranston family came from the most distinguished ancestry, being blood relatives of the King, Charles the Second, and also of the most powerful of the Scotch Earls. They were men of sterling worth and must have made a powerful impression on the development of the colony. No account of them has ever been published until now, save that which appears in Mr. Arnold's *History of Rhode Island*. I do not recall a single act of Governor Cranston's, during all the years of his holding the office of Governor, and which he held until his death, which redounds to his discredit.

The *Financial News*, a paper published in Providence, devoted as its heading says "to the interests of *operators*, business men and *corporations*," had the other day a leading editorial entitled the *Distribution of Wealth*. It was a criticism of Mr. T. G. Shearman's article, the *Coming Billionaire*, in the *January Forum*. In the course of his remarks the editor aforesaid makes this proposition:

"If the tariff, as a method of indirect taxation, shifts the burdens of sustaining the government from the rich to the poor, it must do so because the laborer is not proportionately benefited by the enforcement of its schedules."

BOOK NOTES suggests to the editor aforesaid this proposition: If the schedules were so adjusted as he proposes, to proportionately benefit the laborer, of what advantage would the tariff be to the "protected" party, or as the editor calls him, the *capitalist*, but who generally turns out to be a Director in half a dozen banks, and owing each one fabulous sums. Then follows this extraordinary proposition:

"Mr. Shearman claims that, as the consumer ultimately pays the taxes imposed, the laborer constituting such a vast majority of the consumers, is the one who

suffers most. The calculation is true so far as it goes, but the author fails to note that there are consumers of labor as well as of products, and that while labor, as the consumer of products, does pay a portion of the taxes in higher prices for those products, yet capital, as the consumer or employer of labor, must, in the last resort, pay a greater portion of the taxes in the form of higher prices for that labor."

What is "capital?" This person must answer, it is money. Then I ask him, Whence came this money? and he must answer, It is the profit accruing from the results of labor, the actual cost having been first paid. Who then creates capital and by consequence the so-called "capitalist?" and he must answer, the laborer. Now, then, the thing created consumes its creator, does it? A laborer builds for me a house; this house is wholly the product of labor, and not in any degree the product of "money" or "capital." If I occupy the house do I consume it, or do I consume the laborer, or does the thing created, to wit, the house consume the laborer? The *Financial News* will not help the interests of corporations by the publication of such stuff as that.

A little treatise, written by Mr. Scott A. Smith on the *Source and Nature of Electricity* and its application to the Electro Plating Process, has been elegantly printed for the Gorham Manufacturing Co. In the most concise manner Mr. Smith describes the original source of the subtle fluid, to wit the Sun, how it is obtained or produced, and how used; he proceeds to the explanation of magnets and relates the connection between magnetism and electricity, and thus reaches the subject proper, of his little book, *Electro-Plating*. It is a model of conciseness, as I have before written.

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When Jeremy Bentham wrote the following paragraph he did not in specific terms say that he had then in mind the struggles in Providence in obtaining a Commissioner of Public Works, or perhaps the struggles of a Commissioner of Public Works in obtaining the city of Providence, but there is no doubt that that event was what he then (1830) had in mind: "The people are a set of masters whom it is not in a man's power in every instance to please and at the same time faithfully to serve. He who is resolved to persevere without deviation in the line of truth and utility must have learned to prefer the still whis-

per of enduring approbation to the short-lived bustle of tumultuous applause." Ah! what delight must thrill the soul of Bentham as he looks down every morning from Paradise and sees Mayor Smith reading that paragraph, and as he strokes his aged beard, whispering to himself, Bentham meant me. Happy is the man who can administer consolation to the afflicted.

It is with real sadness that BOOK NOTES records the fact that Mr. H. Gregory, who keeps one of the two book stores now remaining in Providence, has displaced a portion of his book stock to give place to a stock of cheap confectionery. There have been days when a good book-seller was regarded as an educator by his fellow men, and as such was considered as much deserving of support as were any of the educated classes. Alas, those days have departed. It is something of a tumble for man to come down from selling Tacitus to Taffy, from Burns to Butter-scotch and Puttenham to Peanuts. The struggle for existence of the poor book sellers is really terrible. There is but one end to it, unless a remedy is applied.

A new memoir of Francis Wayland has been prepared by Prof. James O. Murray of Princeton, who was a pupil of President Wayland. It is practically an abridgement of the memoir, prepared by Dr. Wayland's sons in 1868, and which was in turn based upon reminiscences written by President Wayland himself. There appears to be in it nothing not before known. It is a picture of Wayland in his Sunday clothes. His was a rugged character in many ways and would well bear exhibition. Why not give us a look at him as he was?

WANTED—Back Nos. of HARPER'S WEEKLY. Old but perfect copies 61 Snow street.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Feb. 28, 1891.

As indicated by the title, *Five Minute Declamations, Second Part*, this work is made up of selections, no one of which will occupy more than five minutes in the delivery. The success of the "Five Minute Declamations," First Part, has been such that a demand was created for a second part which is here presented. The volume is composed mainly of new selections from Americans, which will be found to be specimens of modern eloquence and ideas. The selections are made available by judicious pruning by a teacher of elocution, well qualified by years of experience; and the variety is sufficient to suit the taste of those who may be seeking fine specimens of eloquence. Among the list of speakers quoted will be found Phillips, Curtis, Webster, Depew, Cleveland, Grady, Long, Lodge, Phillips Brooks, etc.

So then we have come round to the issue on which we defeated Mr. James McNally for Mayor.

A few copies of BOOK NOTES, Vol. VII, have been neatly bound in half red sheep, and are for sale at the Publication office, 61 Snow street. Price, \$1.25, post paid.

BOOK NOTES never expected to see the day in Rhode Island when the Republican party would decline to run a candidate for Congress, but it has seen that day.

The reading public will be interested to know that a cheap edition of James Freeman Clarke's story of the "Life and Times of Jesus" has been issued by Lee and Shepard, thus placing this remarkable narrative within the reach of all. The *Albany Journal* says the work ranks with "Ben Hur" and "The Prince of the House of David."

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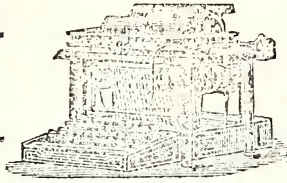
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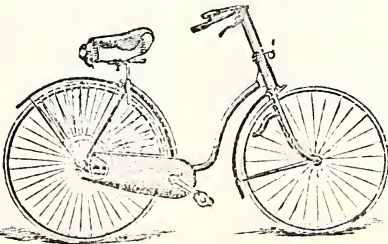
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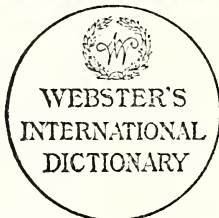


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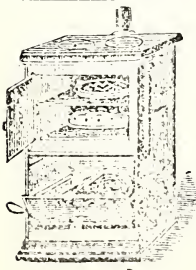
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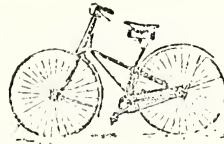
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SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1891.

VOL. 8.
No. 6.

There comes a book from Lee & Shepard entitled, *The Log of the Maryland*, written by Douglas Frazer. It is a handsome volume with excellent illustrations. It purports to be adventures and incidents which happened to the sailors and passengers on the Bark *Maryland* on a voyage some forty years ago, during the days of the clipper ships from New York to Shanghai. It reminds me of the good old sea stories, which we had from Hawser Martingale and Captain Ringbolt in the days of my youth. On the *Maryland* was a party of gentlemen, who were to establish a business house at Shanghai; these gentlemen were a continual source of amusement not only to themselves, but to everybody else on board the ship. There seems to be no limit to their inventions in extracting fun out of the voyage. Now and then a flying fish would drop on the deck of the ship. When fried this fish made excellent breakfasts. So Mr. Frisbie, one of the gentlemen, designed a scheme by which more of the fish might be captured. He made a scoop net with a long handle, with which Pete Ogley, a Norwegian sailor, was to bag the game which Mr. Frisbie dropped with his shot gun. So successful was this scheme that a dozen fine fish were soon secured. For weeks together a hook and line was trailed astern for catching whatever might seize the bait. A small

shark was one day landed, not more than three feet in length, but on the body of this fish were found two parasites fastened by means of their sucking apparatus. It required a sheath knife to disengage them. This singular fish is the *Remora* of which strange tales have come down to us. Even Pliny has said: "Though the wind may rage and the tempests sink the bark, it restrains their fury, it destroys their power, it renders immovable these vessels which no chain could stay, no weighty anchor move." All this by a fish about fifteen inches in length and resembling a herring. Fishing for albatross was another of the amusements of these fellows and of which a spirited account is given, from which it may be learned that it is something of a job to catch an albatross with a hook and line. This excellent book is full of interest from beginning to end. It is admirable for boy's reading. It describes just the kind of things they like to read about and which will do them no harm, but on the contrary do them only good. Landing at St. Helena the party visited the vacant tomb of Napoleon, and upon another island a perilous tiger hunt was indulged in. At last the voyage ended with a terrific, but successful fight with a piratical Chinese junk in which novel munitions of war came into play.

The Sunday Journal of the 5th inst, adds another block of sand to the historical edifice which it is now engaged in erecting. This time it relates to the *Grave of a Regicide*. This paper is, I presume, written by the author of the *Home Lots of Providence*, 1886. In that work the author introduced a fine engraving of the church at Gwinear, Wales, in which it is stated that the birth of Roger Williams was registered, and he further stated that Williams was of Welsh parentage. He wishes now to create the impression that Theophilus Whale, of Narragansett, was the regicide, Theophilus Whalley, and that his grave is in West Greenwich. Both tales rested only on tradition, and both have been completely exploded over and over again, and yet Mr. Hopkins comes up smiling and seems determined to cram this nonsense into our heads in spite of our reason. There is absolutely no foundation whatever for the story; the very name is a fraud as so applied, for it is corrupted out of Whale, and yet the Journal presents an illustration labelled "Theophilus Whalley's Grave." No such thing exists in Rhode Island. The reader who is curious to see an utter overthrow of this story is referred to President Stiles's "History of the Judges," pp. 167 and 355, also Hutchinson's "History of Mass. Bay," v. 1, pp. 197, 201 and 457, also "Documents relating to the seizing of Goffe the Regicide, edited by F. B. Hough, Albany, 1865.

Genealogies are not always the driest of reading for those not immediately connected with them. The other day I took to one out of which I got some amusement. It was written by the Rev. E. H. Johnson, then pastor of the Brown street Baptist church in this city, and it was entitled *Family History of Deacon Elias and Mrs. Laura Gale Johnson*, of Troy, N. Y. Ordinarily, it is the practice of genealogists to begin with an account of those from whom the subjects were descended,

but Mr. Johnson begins in an entirely different manner. He describes those from whom Deacon Johnson was *not* descended. First, there was Isaac Johnson, from whom the Deacon did not descend. "*This person superintended the settlement of Boston.*" Then there was William Johnson, him they dubbed Sir William, and rewarded with £5000, and by a Royal gift of a hundred thousand acres north of the Mohawk,—“famous for skillful management of the Indians, and for begetting about a hundred half-breeds, besides one legitimate son.” No, the Deacon descended from no such Johnson,—and thereupon the Reverend chronicler enters upon the proper work which he had set before himself. But the whole book is a picnic for a cynic.

One day in June, 1839, the editor of the Providence *Journal* announced that he had been on a visit to the Thread mills at Pawtucket, and this is what he says he found there: “We called at the establishment of Dexter & Son, and was astonished to see to what perfection the manufacture of thread has arrived in this country. The concern is controlled by Capt. Dexter, who has brought this branch of American industry so near perfection. The company have five mills and employ 200 hands. The manufactures of thread in Pawtucket, of which there are several establishments, have almost taken the place of the threads they formerly imported from England. The thread they manufacture is of a far better quality and cheaper than that formerly imported.”

It is now fifty years, according to the editor of the *Journal* since such perfection was reached. All these fifty years these thread manufacturers have been allowed by Congress to lay a special tax on their American consumers. They are still knocking at the doors of Congress for the privilege of laying a greater tax on us for their products; and the entire

business has gone into the hands of English and Scotch owners. Thus we are now taxed, not to support an industry which the *Journal* says was well established fifty years ago, but to enrich the foreign owner.

There came to us the other day a little folio sheet entitled *ENGLISH CHIPS*. It was Vol I, No. 4. It said *English Chips* are assorted, arranged, and scattered about monthly at the Providence High School, by Marinus W. Gardiner, Jr., and A. Judson Stone. The date is May 5, 1858. The editors say to their schoolmates and friends,—“We wished to surprise and gratify you by presenting you, instead of our usual sheet executed with the pen, one that should represent more nearly a real printed paper.” The articles are chiefly original; one, a poem, “written over a picture of Boaz and Ruth,” is cleverly written, and is signed *Hesil*. Here it is:

See the lovely ancient maiden
With her load of barley laden,
From her lowly toilsome duty
Gazing up in modest beauty,
All unconscious of her lover,
Who admiring stands above her,
Boaz 'tis who wealth possessing
Offers her his love and blessing.
Ye who in life's fields are gleanings
Seek in this a precious meaning.

Such little papers afford both amusement and pleasure. The workings of youthful minds are indicative of the direction such minds will take as they develop, oftentimes we know them. Here's a maxim scarcely original with these boys, but taken from I know not whom: “In prosperity caution, in adversity patience.” Lord Bacon puts it in this way: “The virtue attendant upon prosperity is temperance, upon adversity, fortitude,” or something akin to it; I cannot quote Bacon's precise language.

Mr. Howard Redwood Guild has recently published the *Ancestry* of Calvin Guild, Margaret Taft, James Humphreys, and Rebecca Covell Martin. Both the

male and female lines are carried back to the advent of the first ancestor of each in New England. These ancestors came from England, Scotland and Wales, and many of them settled in Rhode Island, and their descendants are traced from 1620 to the present time. Genealogical charts are given at the close of the work, and a paper entitled a *Conclusion* summarizes the peculiarities of the family histories. The whole work is comprised in a pamphlet of 42 pages, and is an admirable piece of genealogical work, saving that Book NOTES has no means of verifying dates. It may well serve as a model for those who are desirous of pursuing such inquiries. The printing was done by the Salem Press, and is, like the work itself, a model of excellence. But I must note an error or two: Under Richard Waterman, page 30, it is said “he (Waterman) and ten others bought Showomet.” There were eleven others. The same error is repeated under Richard Carder, page 41. Under Nathaniel Waterman it is said, “he was born in Salem, 1637, died (does not say where) 1612, married Snsanna Carder. 1663. He was a deputy eleven years, &c.” The inference would be that all this was in Massachusetts, but it was all, saving the birth, in Rhode Island. Mr. Guild is to be congratulated on the excellence of his workmanship.

The Laws of Rhode Island were first printed in 1719, and again in 1730. For six years following this last date, the general laws were printed and paged to continue this digest. But the *Acts and Resolves* (Schedules) of the General Assembly were not printed till late in the year 1747. Before that time they were written by the Secretary of State for the Towns. A specific price was fixed by law which the towns were to pay the Secretary. For the August session, 1711, consisting of eight pages, the Secretary received fourteen shillings per copy. There must have been some pretty rough kicking

about this price, for the General Assembly fixed the price which the Secretary was to receive for the November, 1711, schedule at six shillings, and it contained 28 pages. At this the Secretary must have in turn kicked, for in May, 1712, the price was again raised to ten shillings, and so from time to time it varied until the printed series was begun.

Harriet Prescott Spofford is an accomplished story teller. BOOK NOTES does not say this just because somebody else may have said so, but because BOOK NOTES actually thinks so. Just now she has written an exceedingly clever story entitled *A Lost Jewel*, which has been elegantly brought out by Lee & Shepard. It is a story of a lot of children written for the amusement of a lot of children. It is not a mere stringing together of words, which one reads over and over in search of an idea, but it is words put together in certain form to the end that a character will be discerned in the process of development. The art consists in so doing this, that the child himself will relish the story and be insensibly led to like the good and dislike the bad, and that is the kind of books which the young should be encouraged to read.

It is a matter of positive satisfaction that the petition some time since sent to the City Council, to have the Earliest Records of the Town of Providence edited and printed, has been successful. A commission has been appointed with an appropriation sufficient to begin the work. Now let us hope that a book will be produced which will be creditable to the city and useful to those who seek for facts in our earliest history. Don't repeat the terrible example given us in the Colonial Records of Rhode Island.

An extremely amusing discussion has arisen regarding the origin of the name Rhode Island participated in by several

writers. The Rev. Edward E. Hale finds its origin in the discovery there of the Rhododendron. Thereupon a Mr. H. Christ, writing from Bale, Switzerland, "suggests as a more probable derivation of the name, that *Rhode*, in the old German idiom, signifies to throw down, exterminate, clear up a forest, and corresponds to the English words "root out." Is it not possible then that Rhode Island signifies an island which has been cleared of wood?" BOOK NOTES had supposed that the limits of absurdity in this direction had previously been reached. It is quite evident that the searchers have left the realm of research.

The Easter Number of *The Household* is now ready. It contains an elegant cover, choice Easter stories, and the Practical Departments are illustrated. You can obtain copies at the News-stands, or you can send ten cents to The Household Company, 50 Bromfield street, Boston. Practical women contribute practical articles to the Kitchen, Dining Room and Sewing Room. Mrs. D. A. Lincoln, author of the famous "Boston Cook Book," furnishes "Practical Kitchen Talks," and a "Menu for One Week," in each month's issue.

Noah Webster's Spelling-book was copyrighted in 1803, and it is still so protected, although nearly ninety years have elapsed. It is stated in a copy in 1810, that two million copies had then been sold; in 1828 the paragraph was increased to five million. In 1857, D. Appleton & Co., published the book in which they state that one million are annually sold. The name has been changed from the "American" to the "Elementary," and that is the only really essential change. The familiar fables, eight in number in the earlier issues, have been reduced to four in the later issues.

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THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., March 14 1891.

Congress under the pretext of an International Copyright Law has given English authors a title to their own works, on the condition that American type-setters have the privilege of levying a tax on American readers, and this iniquitous scheme the Providence *Journal* calls a *Triumph of Literary Honesty*. The printer and publisher must rob some body. Heretofore it has been the English author, now it is to be the American reader.

Mention was lately made in these columns of Mr. Sidney S. Rider's Inquiry [in his own *Book Notes*] concerning the authenticity of an alleged portrait of Roger Williams. This exposure well deserved to find a place among the Rhode Island Historical Tracts, and Mr. Rider has just issued it as No. 2 of the second series (Providence).—*The Nation*, N. Y.

The success which followed the publication of Prof. King's First Picturesque Geographical Reader has induced the publication of a *second* book concerning which it has been said, that "Geography has, from time immemorial, been taught upon the rote system, no effort having been made to present the study in any but the stereotyped forms of a generation ago, with abstruse explanations and unhappy definitions of islands and capes, peninsulas and archipelagoes, will it is not claimed that this system will make every boy a Humboldt, its use in the school-room proves that it will materially lessen the tedium of long hours over uncared for rivers, brooks, mountains and hamlets, which have so long been the banes of the school-room." It has the best possible illustrations being 177 in number, scattered over 300 pages of text, which are both entertaining and instructive. Nothing better in the way of giving geographical knowledge to children has ever been devised.

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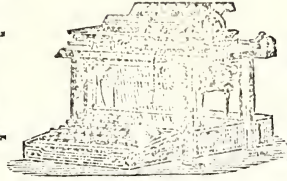
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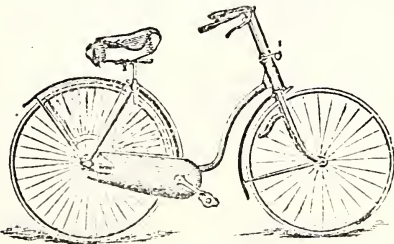
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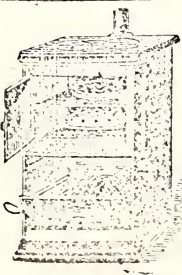
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BOOK NOTES

HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

No. 61 S. NOW STREET, (Winthrop Building,) PROVIDENCE, R. I.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1891.

VOL. 8.
No 7.

A portrait of Benjamin Franklin, which has come to my knowledge since the publication of R. I. Historical Tract No. 2, Second Series, concerning the authenticity of the portrait of Roger Williams, illustrates the development of that fraud. The face is entirely different from the alleged portrait of Williams, but the figure and its surroundings as given in the "Benedict" engraving, clearly enough comes from this rare print, engraved by J. McArdle, from a portrait painted by B. Wilson. It is now quite evident that the head from Watson's Annals was first used, and that doubt as to its genuineness induced the production of additional proof. The form of this proof was in the introduction of things connected with the subject. In the Franklin engraving he holds in his hand a book labelled "Electricity." In the Williams variation he holds a book labelled "Key to the Indian Language." Had I known of this engraving earlier it would have been reproduced. I am indebted to Horatio Gates Jones, Esq., for a knowledge of it. This gentleman also points out a couple of typographical errors in the Tract, thus: *Defranchisement* in the prefatory note should have been *Disfranchisement*, and the date of Benedict's History should be 1848, as it appears in the text, and not 1843, as printed beneath the portrait, page 11.

Court of Pennsylvania, points out an error which completely overthrows the argument drawn by me from *Coke upon Littleton*, and exposes my ignorance of the structure of Coke's Institutes. Coke upon Littleton was the *First* Institute, the three other Institutes had nothing to do with Littleton, and hence my argument that neither Williams nor the artist could have seen a complete copy of Coke upon Littleton was absurd. Fortunately this blunder does not weaken the force of the general criticism, for Judge Mitchell says in closing, "the pamphlet is a demonstration that the portrait is not that of Roger Williams, which with the other evidence seems to be equally conclusive that it is Ben Franklin."

There was in last BOOK NOTES reference made to a little poem which appeared in "English Chips," a Providence High School publication, printed in 1858, which was signed *Hesil*. A note from Judge Carpenter gives me the name of the writer of the poem, to wit, Henry Simons Latham, Jr. *Hesil* was a pseudonym made by using the letters italicized in the name as here printed. The next year, 1859, there appeared the "Valedictorian." It was dated May 4th. Mr. Latham was a writer also in this High School paper. Associated with him were Charles F. Taylor and John Tetlow, Jr. In this little paper there is a poem entitled, "A Dream

But Judge Mitchell, of the Supreme

of Roses." No author is indicated. BOOK NOTES reprints a couple of stanzas:

I knew a rose so sweet it might inherit
Some proud Adonis' blood, forth from whose tomb
Th' enticing rootlets drew the slumbering spirit,
To charm the world with blushes and perfume:
When fairest grown, it met the appointed doom
Of all that fairest grows; it withered—died;—
Yet once again I saw it swell and bloom;
Unlike the perished neighbors at its side,
A second time it threw its fragrance far and wide.

Astonished then these hurried words I spoke:
"O flower for man created, that didn't rise
When God-like grace from Eden's soil awoke
Like Eve the latest born of Paradise!
Thy breathing tribes of sweetness to man's eyes
Still paint the bliss and beauty of the bower
Of primal virtue; but neath earthly skies,
What bud like this e'er spoke the spirit's power
To break the bands of death?"—I plucked the
wondrous flower.

The *Valedictorian* is filled with excellently written papers by the High School boys of these days. Here are some of the headings: "The Harmony of Natural Laws," "The Organs of Mental Digestion," "The Upward Tendency of the Mind," and several poems, a portion of one being the extract above.

These were halcyon days for the High School, and bright boys trod the platform. There was a High School Lyceum; the second anniversary of which occurred Feb. 13, 1857. Stephen Essex delivered an oration on *Mark Antony*; George M. Daniels (now passed to the other side) delivered an oration on *Christopher Columbus*; Stephen A. Cooke, one on *Lafayette*, and Henry J. Spooner spoke on *Ingratitude*; B. Frank Pabodie delivered a poem, and the President, D. W. Ladd, made the closing address. The next year this Lyceum anniversary fell on the 12th of February, 1858. Orations were delivered then on *Julius Caesar*, by John Tetlow; on the *Revolutionary Heroes*, by W. B. Avery; on *Richard the First*, by G. W. Van Slyck; on *Ireland*, by John E. Lester; on *Our Great Men*, by E. G. King (also gone to join them); on *Virtue, the True Guide*, by H. S. Latham, Jr.;

on *Aaron Burr*, by Joshua M. Addeman; on the *Mechanic*, by John T. Blake; *Integrity necessary to Success*, by W. D. Martin. How many happy memories will arise as these now honored men amongst us read over these paragraphs.

A friend wishes BOOK NOTES to print the following paragraphs concerning a new American novel entitled *Sardia*. It (the novel) was written by Cora Linn Daniels and is soon to be published by Lee & Shepard. If these paragraphs a round unvarnished tale unfold, *Sardia* is well worthy of attention.

"Epictetus says, 'You cannot take up custard with a hook.' We have been so flooded with custard novels of late, soft, thin, namby-pamby creations intended for spoons, that when we come upon a volume which gives the impression of a clear, white, noble carving in cameo, we take it to our hearts and knit it to us with 'hooks of steel' as Shakespeare would have secured a friend. Cora Linn Daniels has produced in *Sardia*, a strong firm, original work! The delicacy of her carving cannot hide the swift, keen stroke of her instrument. Polished and well-moulded as are the characters, they are individual, distinct, *themselves*. The 'I' in each is as real as in life, and the graces of Helen, her sweet, rich, noble womanhood, contrasted with the Cleopatra-like fascination and seductive allurements of Sibyl Visonti, 'mistress of that voluptuous curve which shall bring lovers, wealth, fame' to her feet, is a drama of being so realistic, that we feel them to be persons with whom we are intimately acquainted, and whose sorrows and triumphs are our own.

"Even Lulu, the exquisite young girl whose soul's awakening is like the blooming of the jonquil, for purity and freshness, for fragrance and deliciousness, wins tender affection, amidst the deep, strange scenes that are enacted around her; and *Sardia* himself, mysterious, grand, with the silent strength of an exalted nature, bearing the anguish of a great abnegation, where will you look to find a hero so wholly satisfying to both ideality and practicality,—to the divinely poetic; the 'soul of sacred common sense'?"

"But the secret lies in the instant fascination of any one of the pages of

Sardia. Its striking head lines alone, will at once hold attention, and having caught the eye, the interest deepens until the reader becomes hooked to its strong, bright chapters, until he reads 'The End,' with a sigh of wistful delight.

"Such is the new novel; a novel, a story.—a picture of dramatic incidents that may happen anywhere at any time, but which, grouped with an artistic skill, become pregnant with the subtle fire of genius which penetrates the heart and enflames the imagination. While throughout all, remember; the pure, white dignity of sacred Truth stands first and most beautiful in the foreground of the delicate but firmly chiselled carving."

In its last issue *BOOK NOTES* gave the credit of having written an article on the "Grave of a Regicide," which had appeared in the *Sunday Journal* to Mr. C. W. Hopkins, on the presumption that the article being in accord with the often expressed views of that gentleman it was written by him. Whatever views he may have formerly held, he has now in an article in the *Journal* put himself squarely on record in opposition to the theories advanced in the former paper, and shows that Theophilus Whale was not Theophilus Whaley, and that there is the grave of no regicide in Rhode Island. There was never any foundation for this idle gossip, and there is no excuse for exhibition of ignorance, or something worse, in those who now write about it.

Mr. Justin Winsor, Librarian of Harvard College Library, in a recent letter from England to the *Nation* mentions [the decline in England of the formation of private libraries, and ascribes it to the growth of circulating libraries both, public institutions and private ones. The same conditions exist in the United States, and it cannot be regarded other than a public misfortune. The old idea that the family library was a main factor in the healthy intellectual development of the family is now obsolete. Family libraries are no longer formed, nor are good healthful, wise books now read. It ac-

tually requires an effort to induce those who now have the direction of public libraries to buy such books. Just now has been published the annual report of a little free library at Hope Valley, a thrifty manufacturing village in the southwestern part of Rhode Island. It is called the *Langworthy Free Library*; the name being given by a member of the firm of Nichols & Langworthy, who has contributed some money to its establishment; but one half the money obtained comes from the state and from the town in which the library is situated. The library contains 1866 volumes: classed as *Fiction* 618, or about one third; while history biography, poetry, travels, fine arts, domestic arts and all other departments of literature, has 1248. The number of people entitled to use this library is about 1500: the actual number of people using, is 365. Now comes the disheartening figures: Whole number of books taken out 2914, of which 2258 were fiction,—a percentage of 77.49, or nearly four fifths, and that too of the debased and debasing novels of the day, which are, as compared with Fielding's novels, as dock mud would be compared with pure white snow.

Dr. Chapin may talk for the next six months to me about the beneficence of butterine and how necessary it is to human life, nevertheless, I believe that I ought to have some legal protection from being swindled out of money, by giving me an article which I did not buy, worth ten cents, in the place of an article which I did buy, worth forty cents. Butterine may or may not be hurtful physically, but it is terribly dangerous morally.

Apropos, the inspector of milk in a communication to the Board of Alderman states, that on the 14th of this month of March, he, between 2 o'clock and 7:30 in the morning, collected samples of milk from wagons. These samples were analyzed with the result that out of twenty samples eighteen were adulterated to the

end, that buyers were cheated out of their money. This sort of thing has ceased being a joke. It may be fairly calculated from the inspector's latest analysis that these milk peddlers are swindling people here out of not less than \$300,000 annually by bringing them water colored like milk.

The papers have of late contained many paragraphs in ridicule of the girl of the period, for using the phrase "too too" in describing esthetically something which the said girl is lacking in words to express. This expression now so much ridiculed was much used by the best English writers of the classic period. Shakespeare has in Hamlet the familiar passage,

"Oh that this too, too solid flesh would melt."

Herrick, him who wrote "Hesperides," has this couplet:

"Had Lesbia too too kind but known
This sparrow she had scorned her own."

In "Hudibras," Butler has written,

"And would have quelled him with a trick,
But Martin was too too politic."

Similar uses of the words can be found in Marlowe, and in Beaumont and Fletcher, Young in "Night Thoughts" uses them, and doubtless by many other writers were they in common use.

Concerning the new International Copyright Law the *Nation* says: "The obligation under which it places the foreign author to have his book 'manufactured' in this country, as a condition of protection to it, is a piece of tariff barbarism, which is enough to make one hang one's head * * The next generation we venture to predict will be heartily ashamed of our first International Copyright Act." Then why urge the enactment of such a law? * * * * *

It is a *Triumph of Literary Honesty*, at least so the Providence *Journal* informs us. The people of Providence had long been in the habit of milking the cows of the people of Pawtucket; the latter pleaded against it, but the people of Provi-

dence persisted, until they devised a plan by which to milk the cows of the people of Pawtucket. *Quere*. Where does the honesty come in? That may be allegorical, but it is a precise statement of the case just the same.

A correspondent in New Jersey observes "that the origin of the name Rhode Island is still under discussion." Why not end it by publishing the three lines of the Records of 13th of the first month, 1644, p. 127, of the printed record. "It is ordered by this court that the island commonly called Aquethnick shall be henceforth called the Isle of Rhodes, or Rhode Island. BOOK NOTES suggests that it has already done so. See vol. 7, p. 33. It is at this point that the question opens. Whence came the name? how came the General Assembly in 1644 to adopt such a name? The answer appears in a letter written by Roger Williams, also referred to in BOOK NOTES at the same page as the above law—thus: "Rhode Island in the Greek Language is an Island of Roses and so the Kings majesty was pleased to resent it." The *wild rose* gave the name to Rhode Island.

The recent attachments placed on the Oriental mills by the Banks in Providence is a comical illustration of the position of things here. When a certain individual smiles then everybody else laughs outright. There was not from the first a bank officer, nor a lawyer, who could give a rational explanation for his act. The banks sent a few more good dollars in search of those which had ceased to exist—and the poor hard working lawyers got them.

The *Publishers Weekly*, New York, the organ of the book trade, has this bit of advice: "Our advice to such as contemplate joining the ranks of the book trade is to hesitate and to consider well the step before taking it. "Having had some actual experience, the editor of BOOK NOTES is prepared to say that that is sound advice.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., March 28, 1891.

The *Journal* of March 15 has an article with the heading *Rhode Island Governors*, sketches of local prides, politicians and statesmen, illustrated with portraits of that peculiar excellence for which the *Journal* is now distinguished. There are two singular things about this article, first, the omitting of the only Rhode Island Governor now existing, to wit, John W. Davis, and second, the including of a portrait of Thomas Wilson Dorr. 'The *Journal*, concerning Mr. Dorr says, "There were then (1842) two governors who became famous, one as the last governor under the charter, and the other as the first in revolutionary period." The *Journal* in the hands of the late Governor Anthony would hardly have contained that paragraph; a change must have come over the spirit of their dreams.

The fining of weavers by the Atlantic mills has aroused attention to such an extent that a law has been proposed in the General Assembly prohibiting corporations from such things. Have corporations no rights which legislatures are bound to respect? It has long been evident that "Help" had no such rights. Now here comes this poor, but innocent corporation, charges a damage against a weaver, decides upon the question, assesses the amount, and collects the judgment, it makes its own law, is plaintiff, legislator, judge, and executioner all in one, and yet people are ungrateful.

It is touching to read the "compromise" made between the "help" striking against these delicate fines and the Atlantic Mills. A final appeal is open to the "help" to Mr. Chas. D. Owen as judge of appeals in equity, he being the plaintiff in the case. The *Journal* remarks that the General Assembly might as well abolish manufacturing as thus to worry these struggling creations of the General Assembly itself.

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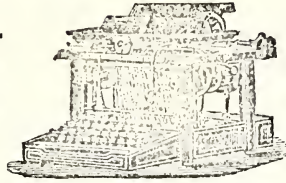
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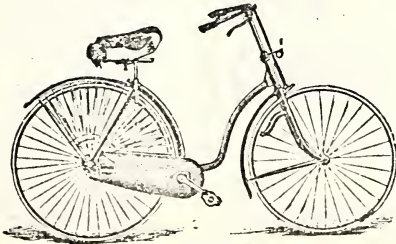
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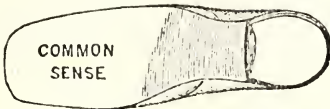
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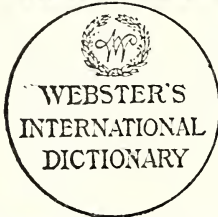


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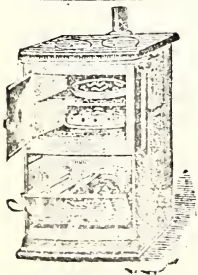
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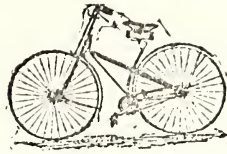
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SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1891.

VOL. 8
No. 8

GROPING IN THE DARK FOR AN UNKNOWN SCIENCE.

The singular defence set up by Mr. Choate in the case of Tirrell on trial in Boston, on the charge of the murder of Maria Bickford, seems to have been suggested to Mr. Choate by the publication of Mr. Henry Cockton's clever somnambulist novel, *Sylvester Sound*. Absurd as was the defence, nevertheless, it prevailed with the jury. *Sylvester Sound* was published in 1844, Tirrell's trial took place in 1846. Quite recently, in Paris, an attempt was made in a trial for murder of Eyraud and Bompard to set up *Hypnotism* in defence, but it was not admitted. As far back as the days when the records of men began, this question of the action or influence of one mind over another, or the condition of one mind acting at the will of another, or acting by some power exterior to itself and not of its own volition, has attracted the attention of men. At one time it was witchcraft and one person could bewitch another, at another time it was animal magnetism, and one person could magnetize another; then mesmerism, by which one person could mesmerize another; after that came clairvoyance, and then it was a spiritualistic medium, then mind or faith cure, and now we have hypnotism, an influence by which one person can hypnotize another. Some fifty years or

more ago, there was performed here in Providence, a series of experiments in animal magnetism, as it was then called, which by reason of the extraordinary character of the experiments, and on account of the character of the men engaged in the experiments, attracted many distinguished people from other cities here, to witness them. These circumstances, coupled with the apparent interest of people in hypnotism as it is now called, have suggested the present synopsis of the Providence experiments in 1836-8.

The matter was first suggested here by Dr. Charles Poyen, a French physician, who came to this country with a view to spreading a knowledge of animal magnetism. Among the first to be interested in the phenomena here was Thomas C. Hartshorn. This gentleman was at the time proprietor and teacher of a private school called the Union School. He died in 1854 a respectable and respected gentleman. It is mainly by Mr. Hartshorn's efforts that any record remains of what he and those associated with him did here in these matters. I will here recall some of the things recorded.

Miss Fanny Snow kept a school for young children at No. 95 Benefit street: one day, during an intermission, a child was observed apparently asleep, and at all events, unconscious, in the school ante room. A young physician, Mr. T. L.

Halsey Creighton, a son of Commodore J. Orde Creighton, was summoned. He pronounced the child to be in a magnetic sleep. A little girl, perhaps ten years old, thereupon burst into tears and thus betrayed, as the teacher thought, her agency in the matter. The little girl knew not how to remedy the mischief she had wrought, but Miss Snow quieted and soothed her and told her that all she had to do was to ask Anne to wake, which she did, and Anne came at once out of her magnetic sleep. These things rest upon the statements of Mr. Benjamin Cozzens and Mr. Joseph Balch, Jr., both well known and respectable citizens. About this time there came to Providence a young lady, an invalid from Dudley, Massachusetts, named Lorena Brackett. She came here under the care of Dr. George Capron, to whom it had occurred that her disease might be remedied, or at all events, benefitted by animal magnetism. Dr. Capron, Mr. Henry Hopkins and Mr. Jesse Metcalf left elaborate notices of the things done by Lorena Brackett while in a magnetic sleep. So also has Mr. Isaac Thurber. He wrote a sentence on paper, folded, wrapped, sealed it, and sent it to Dr. Capron with the request that what was written inside, should be written on the outside of the wrapper and the package returned with the seals unbroken. The next day Dr. Capron carried the package to Mr. Thurber's counting room, where in the presence of witnesses, the seals were broken. Miss Brackett had written the sentence with exactness. While this girl was in Mr. Jesse Metcalf's family where she dwelt some weeks, and being perfectly blind, a fact which I should have before stated, she recognized a lady friend of hers then visiting here,—a fact not known to Miss Brackett, but known to Isaac Thurber with whom she made the imaginary journey. A great many things were done by these gentlemen to prove whether a person in a magnetic sleep or a somnambulist, can visit

and describe places never visited nor seen by him. One day to try a certain phase of this experiment Mr. Hartshorn sent a boy from his school on Union street with a note to Dr. Richmond Brownell, a well known physician, then dwelling near by on Westminster street. The boy left the note at the doctor's office and returned. He did not enter Dr. Brownell's house nor did he know the contents of the note. Doctor Brownell was at the time with a patient in a somnambulist state. The purport of the note was that Hartshorn had put something into a gun barrel, and he asked this question: "What is in the gun barrel lying on my desk?" The answer came back written by Doctor Brownell: "There is no gun barrel on your desk, but there is one leaning against the wall," which was the fact.

The following transaction is so very extraordinary that I reproduce it verbatim. It details a somnambulist examination of a sick man, one of Dr. Richmond Brownell's patients, by a somnambulist patient, also under treatment by Dr. Brownell. No physician of his day, nor does any physician of to-day stand higher in point of professional skill or personal integrity than Dr. Brownell, who thus related the story. I reproduce it entire.

"The patient lived more than a quarter of a mile from my residence. I requested a somnambulist then at my house to see if she could find such a man at the same time pointing out to her the situation of the house, which was not in sight from the room where we continued all the time. She saw him. On being asked in what room, she replied in the third room back from the street. She was then requested to describe the situation of the furniture in it in order to discover whether she had got into the right place and whether her clairvoyance might be trusted at that time. She described it very exactly. I then told her my patient had been sick a long time and desired her to examine him and tell what the disease was. She

said, "He looks so bad I do not like to do it." I replied, "Never mind that, it looks bad to you because you have not been accustomed to looking at the interior of a body. As I supposed him to be afflicted with a diseased liver and with indigestion arising from a diseased state of the stomach, I asked her to look at the stomach to see if it was diseased? She answered, "No." Is the liver diseased? "No." Well, examine the whole intestinal canal and see if there is any disease there? "I do not see any," said she. Examine the kidneys. "Nothing is the matter with them," she said.

Not knowing which other point to call her attention to, I requested her to look at every part of him. After some little time she said his spleen is swelled, it is enlarged. "His spleen," said I; "when we speak of a person as being spleeny we suppose he has an imaginary complaint; what do you mean?" She said, "the part called the 'spleen' is enlarged." "How do you know it is enlarged?" "It is a great deal larger than yours." "Do you see mine?" "Yes." "How large is his spleen?" "It is a great deal longer and thicker than your hand." I then asked her to put her hand where the spleen is situated. She immediately placed her hand over the region of the spleen. * * * Seven days after this the patient was taken more seriously ill, and died on Saturday, the third day following. On Monday a *post mortem* examination took place, to which I invited all the physicians whom I could find in the city. Eighteen persons were present, of whom sixteen were physicians. I then stated all the particulars of the examination by the somnambule patient, and requested the physicians to examine the body to see if they could discover the diseased spleen from external examination (Fourteen of the physicians examined and with one voice declared they could not; the two other physicians accepted unchallenged this conclusion) I then opened

the body, and to the utter astonishment of the physicians present, found the spleen so enlarged as to weigh fifty-seven ounces; its usual weight being from four to six ounces." However else such an extraordinary circumstance can be explained; it cannot be explained on the ground of fraud, or delusion, or imposition. Such a solution is out of the question.

Mr. Jesse Metcalf, whose family comprised eleven persons, including Miss Brackett, gives many interesting particulars about her; one of which was that she could immediately tell in which part of the house every member of the family at the moment was, without moving or turning from her seat. Miss Brackett, while visiting at Stanford Newell's, read, while in a magnetic state, More's "Private Devotions,"—a book which had been printed since she became blind. This she read during the darkness of the night, and repeated poem after poem to the ladies of Mr. Newell's family in the morning. Miss Brackett must not be confounded with the person mentioned in Doctor Brownell's narrative,—that was another person. Moses B. Lockwood entered extensively into these experiments, and has left a very minute and extended account of them; one of the most interesting things he tells is about the operations made by him on a magnetized boy, with a magnet. Dr. Isaac Hartshorn has left an interesting account of experiments made by William Grant at his home on High street. Bishop Brownell came from Hartford and was present with other distinguished people. The Rev. Dr. Farley gives an account of a visit (imaginary) made by himself with Miss Brackett, to the house of his brother-in-law in Boston. The young lady described with accuracy the people and the things which she saw, and the streets which she traversed (or supposed she traversed) with Mr. Farley.

I will close this paper with an extract from an elaborate statement concerning these matters made by the Rev. Dr. Ed-

ward B. Hall, for many years a clergyman here. "You may wish me to refer to some facts. It cannot be necessary, and I have already been too long. In the particular case with which my name has been connected, I had Miss Brackett wholly under my control. I questioned her about places and objects which she had never seen and some of which, as they then existed, no creature but myself could have known. I proposed the questions in the most guarded manner. I had never been satisfied before and I did not expect to be then. But if not satisfied I was confounded. She described distant objects whose position in some cases I had just changed, whose existence in other cases I did not then know or believe, so truly, so wonderfully, that I could only marvel. At other times she has done the same in regard to my own house and houses in other towns and states. Then as to her power of seeing, (not taking her blindness for granted though unquestionable,) I have tried it in various ways, and am convinced that she sees either by some other organ than the eye, or with such rays of light only as can penetrate all substances if there are any such. I have seen a sealed letter containing a passage enclosed in lead, which letter she held at the side of her head not more than a moment, all in sight, then gave it back to the writer and afterwards wrote what she read in it, the letter was opened in my presence, and the two writings agreed in every word, there being two differences in spelling only."

I am not quite certain, but I believe the trial with the lead plates was by President Wayland.

One experiment which I have omitted possibly I should have included. It was one of the most famous incidents in these celebrated experiments, and was done at the suggestion of Stephen Covill, of Troy, N. Y. Mr. Covill wrote a sentence on a slip of paper, enclosed it between two pieces of blue card board absolutely opaque, folded and sealed it, and sent it

by post to Isaac Thurber with directions to ask Lorena Brackett to write it on the outer wrapper of the packet, which was then to be returned unopened to Mr. Covill. She wrote, "No other than the eye of omnipotence can read this in this envelopment." Then came the words, "Troy, N. Y., August 1837," of which Miss Brackett wrote only "1837."

Possibly on another occasion *Book NOTES* may give another chapter of this most curious history.

A memoir has very profitably been published of Dorothea L. Dix, a woman who spent a considerable portion of her life in awaking people to the necessity of a better care of the insane. It was written by Francis Tiffany. In it appears an account of the founding of Butler Hospital here, and of the success of Miss Dix in obtaining a subscription by Cyrus Butler of fifty thousand dollars in aid of the enterprise; and it is claimed for Miss Dix, that the arousing of the attention of Rhode Island men to the necessity of establishing lunatic asylums, was the result of her efforts. The name of Thomas G. Hazard appears frequently in the narrative; and a pathetic tale about Abram Simmons, who was inhumanly confined at Little Compton in April, 1844, is reproduced from a newspaper. The whole narrative concerning Cyrus Butler is pure romance. He gave forty, not fifty, thousand dollars, and this he gave not under the solicitations of Miss Dix in the gushing style of the story, but after long efforts in his trying to loan the money to the Hospital to be repaid at a future day. A man worth millions of dollars, who could stand by an apple cart and look first at an apple and then at the two cents demanded for its purchase, and at last put back the apple and put the two cents back into his pocket is not a person given to charitable gush. No. Cyrus Butler was in reality a very poor man.

"Chill penury repressed his noble rage,
And froze the genial current of his soul,"

and it was not in the power of any woman to thaw it.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., April 11, 1891.

The Rhode Island mind was not awakened by any act of Miss Dix, but it was awakened by an act of a man, Nicholas Brown, before Miss Dix had ever thought about the subject. It is stated in the *Memoir*, page 72, that on the 28th March, 1841, Miss Dix overheard two men in the street in Cambridge, Mass. discussing the question, and that it was this conversation which first set her a-thinking; but Mr. Brown had on the 3d March preceding, given in his will \$30,000 to found a lunatic asylum. Miss Dix was an unknown factor then, and this was the beginning of an effort which resulted in the present institution. The Mr. Hazard was the late Thomas R. Hazard, (not Thomas G.,) who was very active in these matters; and lastly, the article on Simmons, as published in the *Memoir*, is seriously com-

promised by the omission of several paragraphs from the article as published in the newspaper. Two gentlemen are mentioned in the newspaper as having visited Simmons, and from them Miss Dix obtained her story. Miss Dix never discovered Abram Simmons; his case had long been known by these gentlemen. If this Memoir is as seriously defective concerning other places as it is concerning Rhode Island, it has but little value.

One of Walter Besant's most interesting stories, "The Chaplain's Secret," comprises the first number of "Frank Leslie's Library of Choice Literature," (F. T. Neely Publishing Co., New York and Chicago.) The story is written in Besant's pleasing style, and is thoroughly good from beginning to end. It is illustrated with eleven full-page pictures. Other numbers of this new Library will quickly follow, each containing a popular story by a popular author, and all will be fully illustrated.

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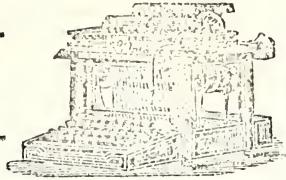
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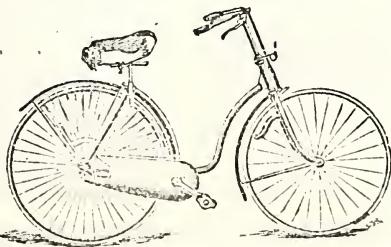
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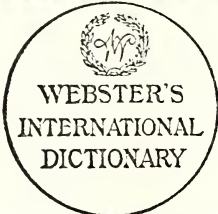


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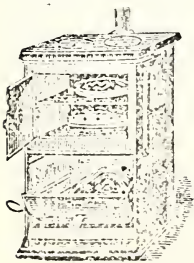
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VOL. 8.
No. 9.

Some gentlemen in the *Journal* and in the *Telegram* have been giving recollections of the sale of tickets to Jenny Lind's concert in Providence. Like the greater portion of such recollections the gentlemen have forgotten what they remember. Jenny Lind sang in Providence, Oct. 7th, 1850, in Howard Hall. Three days before the concert an auction was held in the hall for the sale of the choice of seats. The first choice was bought for \$650, by William Ross, an eccentric man, who ran an Xpress (as he wrote it) to Worcester. Orders for the purchase of seats at this sale were taken under Mr. Barnum's directions, by S. T. Thurber and A. M. Leland, music dealers, and by George H. Whitney and Gladding & Brother, book-sellers. The first bid was \$25; this Ross at once raised to \$650; after this, six seats were sold at \$7.50, nine seats at \$6.00, two at \$4.50, then down to \$4.00, \$2.00, and a considerable number at \$1.25, and then the entire balance to an "unknown" at \$1.00.

The purchase by Ross was telegraphed all over the country, and Ross's portrait was exhibited in the windows in Boston, and anecdotes of his peculiarities and eccentricities were told: his peaked-boots with square heels; his full and luxuriant chestnut beard rolled like the waves of the sea one over another; the back of his coat where its front should have been, with its buttons behind, and his shirt-collar

reversed likewise, formed the subject of innumerable notices. But Ross never took this ticket, which it was said Barnum had had printed specially for him, nor did he take any ticket; he did not attend the concert.

Arrangements were made with George H. Whitney to sell the seats, and plats of the hall were printed by which to sell. Mr. Whitney personally transacted the business. The first plat which he began using is now before me, and it will no doubt be a surprise to my venerable friend Dr. J. J. DeWolf, to learn that his name was the first one written by Mr. Whitney; on his first plat, his seat was about one-third of the way down from Miss Lind on the right hand side of the aisle. No seat was reserved for Mr. Ross. The tickets were of two colors,—yellow, entering on Westminster street, and green, entering on Exchange place; the carriages were directed to "set down company facing west and to take up company facing east." The programme of the concert which is now before me closes with with the Swedish melody, called the "Herdsman's Song," but popularly known as the "Echo Song," which when it came, fairly lifted the audience from its feet. I should have mentioned that Sabin (Hez., Jr.) and Dyer (Ben. B.) were the auctioneers who sold the tickets. Dyer was the cryer.

A cheaper edition (\$2.50) has been published of the *Journal of Sir Walter Scott*, which Harper & Brothers had before published in two volumes, 8 vo. for \$7.00. This cheaper edition is from the same types and is good enough for anybody, save only those who do not read, but merely collect books for the sake of saying "yes, I have it." Sir Walter died in 1832. He began this *Journal* in 1825. The last entry bears date April 16 and is in these words: "We slept reasonably, but on the next morning"—These are supposed to be the last words written by Sir Walter, and although not so intended by their author, are, considered in connection with his death soon after, pregnant with meaning. Large portions of this *Journal* were reproduced by Mr. Lockhart in his *Life of Scott*, but large portions were at that time suppressed; now the entire manuscript is given and it makes admirable reading. It seems singular to read of Sir Walter's attorneys making arrangements for permitting Scott to pass from Scotland through London without arrest for the debts of Constable & Co. on his way to Paris for materials for his *Life of Napoleon*, for which he was to receive \$50,000, all of which he subsequently paid over to these and other creditors. That part of the *Journal* which most interests me relates to his heroic fight as an author. His great powers unknown to himself were only brought into full play by these financial disasters of a publishing firm for which he was in no way responsible, but which fortunately for us and for himself, he laid quite to his own heart; but how he grows in our esteem as we grow in intellectual strength. As a boy it took me ten years to read the "Antiquary," and then I had not read it. Only now have I read it, and it seems stupendous, in very truth. Men grow diminutive as we grow more and more able to understand the workings of this great man's mind. Don't take this book out of some library,

but buy it for yourselves and read it, and then talk with your wife and children about in, in case you are fortunate enough to have such "incumbrances," and you will all be the wiser and the better for it.

The J. B. Lippincott Company have recently published Brewer's *Historic Note Book*. The compiler, Rev. Dr. E. Cobham Brewer, was also compiler of that book so well known here, the "Dictionary of Phrase and Fable," and which was a book similar in character. The compiler undertakes to illustrate the difference in character between his three works of this series by saying that the first, the "Dictionary of Phrase and Fable," was to explain the meaning of words or expressions of words or phrases used in fables, or singular as customs, or curious in character; the second the "Reader's Hand-book," told the tales of the epics, the plots of the plays, or words, with short biographic notes; the third, the "Historic Note Book," is a dictionary not of dates nor of history, but of historic terms and phrases, or as the compiler says, "of jottings of odds and ends of history which historians leave out in the cold, or only incidentally mention." This clever classification seems to me rather finely drawn; each succeeding volume seems in comparison to that which preceded it as more of the same sort, and of a sort of which you cannot have too much. These books are excellent; every respectable family ought to have them within convenient reach for every-day reference. The time to look up references to matters which you do not understand is the moment when you find out that you do not understand them; if you wait until you can run to the Information Desk of the Public Library, you lose the golden moment. I cannot let this admirable book pass without referring to a single reference. "Rhode Island," which the indefatigable compiler says, was "so named in 1663 from the isle of Rhodes in the Mediterranean.

There seems no special reason for this name, but it is so called in the charter of Charles the Second. An old nickname of the people is "Gunflints." It is quite evident that Dr. Brewer has not given that careful attention to BOOK NOTES which he should have done, and thus saved himself from so many errors. The origin of the name did not so originate. But where did "Gunflints" as a nickname come from? It is new to BOOK NOTES.

It may be mighty unfair for a Western publisher to publish an unauthorized edition of Fryce's "American Commonwealths" as against the authorized publishers, Macmillan & Co., but it is a great thing for the American people; for the price being less than one-half the former price of the book, its circulation will be largely increased, and its influence proportionately greater, and much good must result, if what the *Evening Post* says is true, that "No earnest and intelligent American can afford to remain ignorant of it. His education will be incomplete as a preparation for his duties as a citizen, if he does not take advantage of the helps to a sound judgment and a noble purpose which are here given." And of the second edition the same paper said: "A work destined to maintain a living hold on our institutions of learning and to shape the political thinking of the rising generation." Still, I am not willing to admit that it is right to do wrong that good may result. The English author should be protected in his property.

The greatest boon to an overworked housekeeper, and they are always overworked, is a gas stove, at once the most useful and economical article which you can have. Of course you must learn how to use it just as you have to learn how to use everything, but when you once learn then you will be happy.

The work by Dr. Carl Shuckhardt, on "Schlieman's Excavations at Troy, Tirys, Mycenæ, Orchomenos, and Ithaca," has been translated by Miss Eugenia Sellers, and will soon be published by Macmillan & Co. It will contain, besides portraits, maps and plans, nearly 300 wood cuts. It will present an accurate statement of all Schlieman's work so far as published, and it will in addition give all his later discoveries, bringing everything down to the time of the death of this great explorer.

The Wandering Piper.

There is a reference to this individual in the earliest records of the City of Providence. He was an itinerant player on the Scotch bag-pipe. In 1833 he travelled through various towns in Massachusetts. By many he was believed to be some Scotch nobleman, who either from whim or necessity, followed the calling. He does not seem to have besought alms, but took what people gave to him and bestowed it upon the poor. At Plymouth, Mass., he indignantly refused to pick up money which people had placed upon the desk or table at which he sat; he left the town at dusk, and the money also. An indignant letter written by him to the *Journal of Commerce* repels the insinuations against his character and calling. About this time (1833) numerous satirical squibs concerning him were running through the newspapers. The *Journal* of these dates contains them, June 27, July 11, 18, 22, August 15. The *Albion*, New York, October 1, 1836, has this concerning him: "This celebrated personage is at present in Dunbar on the east coast of Scotland and is a great favorite. The mystery concerning his birth and parentage no one can solve, on which account he is an object of the greatest curiosity. He is dressed in the Highland garb. The money which he collects he gives to the poor."

My excellent friend, Mr. Stephen O. Edwards, recently made an argument (which has been printed) before a committee of the General Assembly in support of the untrammelled manufacture of butterine, a name coined for deceit. Mr. Edwards begins his argument with a reconstructed quotation from Gulliver's *Travels*. However appropriate it may be to draw an illustration from Gulliver in support of the manufacture of a fraudulent imitation of something, yet it does not appear in another view quite so happy. The quotation is, "Whoever could make two ears of corn or two blades of grass to grow upon a spot of ground where only one grew before, would deserve better (*butter*) of mankind." A pound of butter and a pound of butterine evidently are not two pounds of butter. Hence, a manufacturer of sham butter has not doubled the quantity of genuine butter, and as Mr. Edwards very rightly asserts, "deserves ill of mankind."

The "Help" who resists the "Fines" system of his employers is infinitely more to be respected than the employer who assumes to impose such an outrage. It is repugnant to every principle of justice, but instead of "striking" the "help" should each contribute, say 25 cents once a month to be paid to some good lawyer to defend every case. The corporations would soon tire of it, for the Bank of England couldn't stand such a strain. In a mill employing a thousand hands that contribution would be little felt, but it would pay a lawyer \$3000 per annum, for which he could afford to work honestly and well. The man who knows his rights and dares maintain them is the real hero.

A short list of second hand Law Books appears in this BOOK NOTE. It is but a few out of many; among them the Massachusetts's *Reports*, 17 vols, and Abbot's *National Digest*, &c.

The plot in "If She Will, She Will," by Mrs. Denison, is quite original, developing gradually throughout the story, so that the reader's interest is held until the last chapter. The character of Andrew Temple, the senator, is a strong one, and the experiences of Margy, from which arise most of the complications of the plot, are very dramatic, while the reader will love and sympathize with Daisy, in her perplexities, to the end. This volume is No. 8, in Lee and Shepard's "Good Company Series."

Paras, a book for boys, written by Effie W. Merriman and published by Lee & Shepard, was a book of real moral worth and exquisitely pathetic. Now comes this lady with another book entitled a *Queer Family*, which is in every way as strong and good as was her former book. "It is the story of a party of street waifs in a large city, who have joined their fortunes, or lack of fortunes, for mutual interest; in short, they form a sort of miniature co-operative society. Their experiences and adventures are given in their own language, which, while not as polished as that of Addison, is very expressive and conveys their meaning very forcibly."

An extremely interesting collection of Dutch charts and early maps illustrative of the state of Geographical knowledge and the progress of discovery concerning New England, and with special reference to Rhode Island, are on exhibition at the office of BOOK NOTES. The dates of these maps are 1638, 1640, 1650, 1665, 1710, 1715, 1777, 1785. Those interested in such matters are invited to examine them.

Of all the horrible things ever set up in this city as a work of art, the fountain at Hayward Park takes the first place. It is without one redeeming feature; happily, too, it stands in the worst piece of landscape designing which it would be possible to devise.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., April 25, 1891.

Do you ever read Sidney's S. Rider's interesting publication called *Book Notes*? It is published fortnightly from 61 Snow street. Devoted to historical and literary research it gives in each number some specially entertaining matter relating to old time Rhode Island. Mr. Rider is a student of Rhode Island history, and those who are inclined to study into the men and manners of the past should not ignore the little periodical that he issues. The matter it contains cannot fail to interest those who delight in reviewing Rhode Island's past and speculating on her future. And then if one is looking for rare old books that touch directly or indirectly on Rhode Island history, where can be found a man so thoroughly versed on the subject as is Mr. Rider?—(From the *Sentinel and Advertiser*, Hope Valley, R. I.)

The *Single Tax* believers in Providence have recently published an *Address* to Rhode Island people on the subject. The astounding ignorance displayed by men supposed to be intelligent on this matter illustrates Mr. Carlyle's *mot* that the majority of present wise men will be the fools of the coming generation.

As germane to this question of the Single Tax the dwelling house of the late James C. Bucklin was sold by auction the other day for \$5200. It was taxed for \$820. A corporation in this city is allowed to hold land on which it receives an annual income equivalent to six per cent. on \$250,000, absolutely untaxed. Was that fair towards Bucklin?

An Index volume has been published for Groves' "Dictionary of Music and Musicians," (Macmillan & Co.) completing the most valuable book ever written on this subject.

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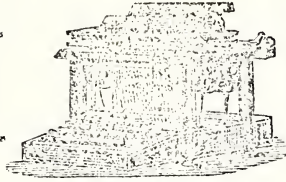
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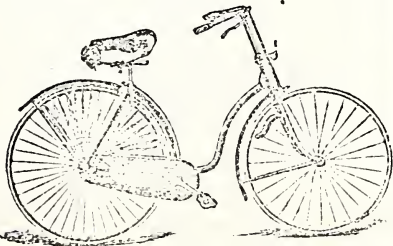
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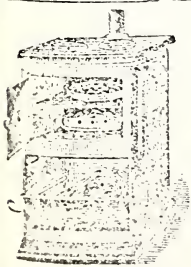
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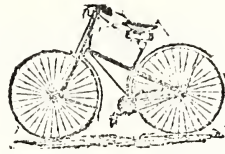
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BOOK NOTES

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VOL. 3
No. 10

Scarcely have the publishers of Webster's *Unabridged Dictionary* obtained an injunction against the publishing and sale of an imitation of that book, granted by the U. S. Circuit Court of Texas, than a new variety of the old book under a new name appears in Chicago. The name of the new book is Webster's *Encyclopedic Dictionary*. It has been generally held that there should be a limit fixed by law to the protection given by copyright laws to an author in property so protected. This limit is in this country forty-two years; but by various alterations, either by additions or subtractions, copyrights have been extended in this country to nearly a hundred years,—far beyond the period ever contemplated by the law. Webster's *Spelling Book* furnishes an instance of this kind. But the question of protecting the public against shams, or impositions, comes in here. Ought a person to be allowed to sell a book as Webster's *Unabridged Dictionary* which bears not the slightest resemblance to the genuine article? Certainly not. Yet you allow *Butterine* to be so sold; and that, in morals, is infinitely worse than selling this book. The publication of the edition of Webster of 1847 is now, under the laws, open to anybody, the original publishers having had forty-two years of protection. The enormous number of the photographic reprints which have been recently sold

discloses the fact that somebody still wants it. Now, instead of a fruitless opposition in the courts, why do not the original publishers flood the market with their own photographic reprints,—with some slight additional matter which can be copyrighted,—at a low price? It should not be forgotten that even this book, which its original publishers say was "so defective and inadequate for general use that it was made over from beginning to end," is an enormous gain to vast numbers of people. Such an operation as this was done with *Hyperion*, when I bought 500 copies of a book which had not been inquired for in ten years and quickly sold them. The question of the protection of the public against shams or swindles is, as I look at it, not a legal one. A person made sick by eating honey is given more honey; so a person sick by nausea is given ipecac. In obedience to the same law, the best remedy against a person's being swindled is to let him be swindled.

The beneficial effect of the oration delivered on the anniversary of the adoption by Rhode Island of the U. S. Constitution by General Rogers, has been disclosed to the writer in at least one signal instance. A professor of history in one of the largest universities in this country, a man who speaks to a thousand students, has completely changed his

views, and in place of giving Rhode Island five minutes of discourse akin to innuendo, gives her an hour and a half of honorable consideration and commendation. He has discovered that the ten first amendments were taken bodily out of Rhode Island's Bill of Rights and that in *them* rest the great bulwarks of civil, political and religious liberty, now so much prized by every civilized human being, not only here, but throughout the entire world, and these were the fruits of the reluctance of Rhode Island. Rhode Island owes a debt of gratitude to General Rogers for setting men a-thinking. No adequate review of this oration has been attempted, a fact which is a discredit to the intelligence and love of historical knowledge on the part of our people. A fact not touched upon by General Rogers, to wit, the strong opposition of the Baptists and Quakers ought to be elaborated and defended. Those who know of it, if any, seem to be afraid of it; but there is nothing in Baptist or Quaker history which reflects more honor or glory to those sects. Those great principles for which the colony of Rhode Island so long and so heroically struggled—Religious Freedom, Liberty of Speech, Liberty of the Press, Right of the People to bear arms, Right of the people to assemble, and to Petition, the Right of Trial by Jury in civil cases,—all these and many others were inwrought into the fundamental law of this great Republic by the resistance to the adoption of that instrument on the part of Rhode Island. They were taken almost verbatim from the Rhode Island Bill of Rights, and now form the first ten amendments to the constitution. But BOOK NOTES must again come to these questions, for they are among the glorious themes in Rhode Island history.

My excellent friend Ned Hopkins, sometime counsellor-at-law, sent to me the other day a lot of old books and things

which once were books for my delectation and his pecuniary advancement. Among them there was one, a *Bible*, which attracted my curiosity. It was printed by the American Bible Society in 1819, and bore on the side, impressed, the words which formed the name of the Society. On each end, in ink, on the edges of the leaves, are the letters P. J., and on the front in the same way the words *Providence Jail*. The old book is in good condition, the only portion showing evidence of wear being the Psalms and Isaiah. This old Jail was not used for prisoners after 1838, and hence my curiosity was to know how my friend could have become possessed of this book. He not having been born before the demolition of the old jail could not have been confined in it and have escaped with the book. But another hypothesis remains. The prisoners within were wont to lower from the upper windows a boot tied to a string in which was a bottle to be filled with rum by a friend without. Did Ned play the part of the friend without and was he rewarded by the friend within by the lowering of this book. Here again his age (he not having then been born) would militate against the theory. Providence seems beset with mysteries, and this is one of them. It has been sometimes said that books can talk; fortunately for the people here this book can't; if it could what a tale it could tell. It saw men branded with hot irons, and other men whipped with lashes, and still others pilloried. It 1829 the old jail was packed with insolvent cotton manufacturers, some of whom must have sought comfort in drawing drafts on the book of Psalms.

Recently a lady requested me to obtain for her a copy of Mrs. Clement's *Christian Symbols and Stories of the Saints*, Boston, Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1891. This lady had long possessed another book by Mrs. Clements, to wit, the *Handbook of Legendary and Mythological Art*, and

which she had found so useful that she was induced to try the new book. Upon examination she found the apparently new book was but a reprint of a little more than half her old book, under another name, and she returned it to me. It bears the dates of three copyright entries, 1871, 1881, 1886. The edition of 1881 is before me. It bears the second title above written, and contains nearly double the matter contained in the newer book, and it has upwards of 130 engravings interspersed in the text, which are wholly omitted in the new book. The price of the whole book in 1881 was \$2 50. The price of this new abridged edition under a new name is \$2.00. In the face of a declining market the price of the book has nearly doubled, and people are innocently led to buy a book which they have long possessed, just as was this lady. Nothing contained within the book gives any intimation of this state of things. Is it fair?

Major Casati was an officer in the Italian army, which position he resigned for the purpose of going to the Soudan some years before the fall of Khartoum to assist in the quelling of an insurrection. This being accomplished he remained in the country and dwelt for ten years among the native tribes obtaining thereby a knowledge of their customs and languages. He travelled far into the interior studying everything which he saw. He was with Dr. Junker, and with General Gordon, and with Emin Pasha, with whom during the latter years of his governorship he was in intimate relations. It needs no stretch of imagination to believe that a man possessing all these advantages would be able to give us a vast amount of genuine knowledge about a land towards which so many civilized eyes are now directed. Casati seems to have been with Emin, when Stanley's expedition for his relief reached Emin, and it is alleged that his story throws a strong light upon that event; but that

which will give much practical value to Casati's narrative will be his information concerning the adaptability of these lands to the production of those things necessary to civilized life, like cotton, sugar, coffee and vegetable food products. The book will be elegantly printed in the best style of English books, admirably illustrated and published by Messrs. F. Warne & Co. of London and New York.

Adeline's Art Dictionary is the name of a book recently published by D. Appleton & Co. It is a duodecimo in form, containing upwards of 400 pages and has about 2000 illustrations. The name *Adeline* is that of a French *savant* who made a *Lexique des Terms d'Art*, and which book was made the basis of the present one; but large additions have been incorporated into it from Mr. F. W. Fairholt's well-known work. The end sought was to give a concise definition of all terms used in Painting, Sculpture, Architecture, Etching, Engraving and Heraldry, and in fact of every term in any way connected with Art. The very great number of illustrations has enabled the compilers to not only describe, but to illustrate with a drawing great numbers of words, thus adding immensely to the use and utility of the book, while its cheapness brings it within the reach of everybody. There cannot be too many books of this class.

The naming of public squares after living men ought to be prohibited by a general statute, just as the Greeks prohibited the erection of public statues of men until ten years after the death of a person intended to be honored. Only a short time since a couple of alderman (not in the present board) induced the board to change the names of two streets, giving their individual names to the streets each soliciting for the other. It seems to be ridiculous, as indeed it really is, a cheap notoriety. Fame cannot be won in that way.

There is an ordinance which imposes a fine of not less than two nor more than twenty dollars upon every person who hitches a horse to a street lamp. Just in front of 61 Snow street stands a street lamp. Not a day passes in which this street lamp is not so used. People come to run about the streets on sundry matters, and stable their horses at this lamp at our front door,—a nuisance to us and in violation of the ordinance. One afternoon a horse stood thus tied five hours, and many an afternoon two hours with a single team are thus used. A week or two ago a woman drove up, hitched, chained and locked the wheels of her vehicle, and cautioned us not to raise the curtain of our window on account of frightening her horse. Her assurance actually paralyzed us.

In this connection the ordinance, chapter 233, regulating the use of streets and highways, passed April 9, 1890. (City Manual, p. 289,) is indeed a curiosity. Every driver or other person having charge of a horse or horses attached to any kind of a vehicle, shall remove the same from any street whenever requested to do so by any police constable; in case of refusal, the said police constable may remove the same, and leave it upon any other street in said city of Providence, and any person violating the provisions of this section (that is, the policeman,) shall pay a fine of not less than two nor more than twenty dollars. The police constable cannot act until the owner or driver has been found, notified, and refused to act. He may have left the team for hours, and then if requested by the police constable, he moves his team, he violates no ordinance, but the officer, in case he moves the team without first having requested the owner or driver to do so, is liable, and the officer in abating the nuisance or obstruction in one street is obliged to create a nuisance or an obstruction in another street. It really seems

that the combined wisdom of the Chief of Police, the Committee on Ordinances, and the City Council, might improve on that piece of legislation by removing, at all events, the penalty on the policeman for that which under the Common Law he is bound to do,—but remember that all this has nothing to do with the penalty for stabling your teams at lamp posts.

The writer of BOOK NOTES pointed out four material errors of statements concerning Rhode Island in Mr. Bryce's *American Commonwealth*. In the revised edition of his work three of these errors have been corrected, but the fourth remains uncorrected. It was so inwrought into the book in several places as to render it difficult to correct it. This error relates to the action of the Supreme Court of Rhode Island in the Trevett and Weeden case. Mr Bryce says in effect, that the court decided the paper money acts unconstitutional, for which the General Assembly elected another bench of Judges "more subservient" to the will of the Assembly, which declared the acts valid, and they were re-instated. All this is utterly without foundation. Every lawyer knows that a statute declared unconstitutional is dead, and that no court can give life to a dead statute. Mr. Bryce should for his own credit correct such astounding errors. Moreover, the statement that the President of the United States ordered Massachusetts and Connecticut militia to assist in quelling the Dorr "rebellion," is it was rebellion, is yet ambiguous, and as it still stands, utterly untrue.

A fine set of the original edition of the narrative of the voyages of the *Adventure* and *Beagle* in four volumes, 8vo. cloth, uncut, London, 1839, is for sale at the office of BOOK NOTES. Vol. 1, by Captain King of the *Adventure*; vol. 2, and appendix by Capt. Fitz Roy, of the *Beagle*, and vol. 3, by Charles Darwin. Beautiful etchings and engravings on steel by Mr. Landseer.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., May 9, 1891.

It was ironing day, breakfast was on the table and the coal fire had been rebuilt for the day's work. Before it was half kindled, a friend dropped in to breakfast with us; a fresh griddle of corn cakes was an instant necessity, but the coals were still jet black; we flew to the gas stove, in four minutes we had them hot from the griddle. It is an absolute necessity, is a gas stove.

Perhaps it was in the *Household* that we read a lot of funny incidents which had happened to clergymen at marriages perpetrated by themselves; but there was one which Prof. Diman related to the writer as happening to himself, which was not in the collection. The party came to his house to be married, the twain and a pair of friends; they stood in line before the Professor while he performed the cere-

mony, when it was finished, the Professor turning his face heavenward stretched forth his open hands and invoked the Divine blessing, when, to his utter confusion, the bridegroom clapped a new silver half dollar in the Professor's open palm, the quickest descent from the sublime to the ridiculous which the Professor ever made. The *Household* is an admirable family paper published monthly at 50 Broomfield street, Boston, at \$1.10 per annum. Saving BOOK NOTES there is no paper superior to the *Household*.

An indignant correspondent sends BOOK NOTES a long communication, too long to be wholly printed in this little paper; but the first few lines of it will answer his request as well or better than the whole. Here they are:

"There is one monument in this city more horrible as a work of art than the fountain at Hayward Park: the new iron railroad bridge on Smith street. What is the use of such an institution as the Art Club if they allow the putting up without protest of such a monstrosity?"

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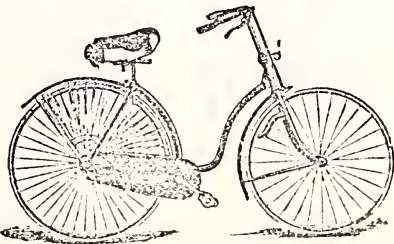
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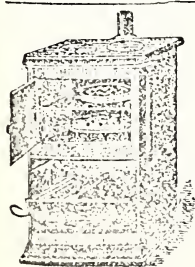
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Is it a "Fake?" It is a "Fake."

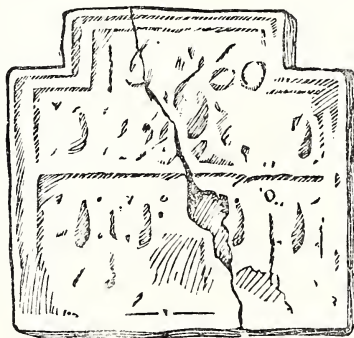
The Sunday *Journal* announces an interesting historical discovery in an account of relics preserved at Barrington. Any attempt to give an analysis of the paper must result only in disappointment, therefore I give it wholly in the words of the *Journal* itself. The *Journal* heads its article

A LAND PLATE.

Shattered by British Grape Shop.

"Among the relics are some that date back to the time when Barrington was part of Swanzy, in the Massachusetts Colony. Of these, one of the most valuable is a large iron land plate, recently presented to the society by Mr. James N. Arnold, and thought to be the oldest land plate in Rhode Island. It illustrates the peculiar method of preserving evidence to land titles at a time when recorders of deeds and their plat filing were unknown and unthought of. It is a black metal plate weighing about 75 pounds, and measuring about 20 inches in length and 18 inches in width. Among other conventional signs upon it, the majority of which are now unintelligible, are the figures 1660 across the top of the plate, which are supposed to indicate the date of confirmation of the title. The custom was to secretly deposit on the land of the purchaser, these plates, and the finding of such marks upon any estate was considered as sufficient a guarantee of ownership as the exhibition of a written deed.

The particular plate in question was used by Capt. Thomas Willett, one of the first settlers of Swanzy. It is supposed that he used it to mark certain purchases of land from Coquinaquand, July 1659.



But to return to the iron land plate. A century and a half passes, and it is found as an ornament in the mantel of a room on the second floor of the Willett House. The war of 1812, brought the English sloop of war Orpheus into the waters of Narragansett Bay to tease the farmers with shot and shell. One day while this bellicose mission was being persecuted, a dose of grape shot struck the east side of the Willett mansion, and passing through the room struck the land plate and broke it in nearly two equal parts. This is the story that accounts for the dilapidated appearance of the plate. Willett Carpenter, Esq., the owner of the estate by inheritance through his mother, a descendant of Thomas Willett, had the two pieces riveted together."

This extraordinary account appears to have been taken out of a communication (without credit) written by Mr. David A. Waldron, and published in the *Real Estate Register*, May 5, 1891. It is with profound pleasure that BOOK NOTES lends its slender columns to celebrate this very interesting communication from the President of the Barrington Historic-Antiquarian Society. Since the immortal discovery by Mr. Pickwick, nothing comparable to it has been made, and the *Journal* is to be congratulated that it has (even if unfairly) been made the vehicle of communication to a wondering world.

Mr. Pickwick's immortal discovery, his purchase of it from the cottager, his wiping the dust carefully with a silk pocket handkerchief from the old stone, his joy at finding the X and the letters, and the happiness of the entire club of Pickwickians when, after cleaning by washing and scraping, the inscription appeared thus—

X
B I L S T
U M
P S H I
S M
A R K

Then the elaborate study by the entire club of the madman's manuscript, and the final discovery of the meaning of the inscription through an inquiry of the cottager, who solemnly affirmed that he had no doubt whatever of the *ancient* character of the *stone*, as he had told Mr. Pickwick, but as to the letters, he had cut them himself, and they meant *Bill Stumps his mark*.

But in this line of antiquarian research what is there in literature which approaches the discovery of the Roman camp by Mr. Oldbuck, of Monkbarns, and his enthusiastic narration to Lovel of the discovery of the stone with the sculptured sacrificing vessel of the Romans, beneath which were the letters

A. D. L. L., which Monkbarns interpreted as *Agricola dicavit libens lubens?* Agricola willingly and gladly dedicated it; but just at this inopportune moment, old Edie Ochiltree, the gaberlunzie who, unseen, had overheard the conversation, broke the slender thread of antiquity by exclaiming, "I mind the biggin (building) o't," and then to the horror of Monkbarns, old Edie describes the wedding of Aiken Drum some twenty years before. Now Aiken happened to be one of the most voracious visitors at the Kale suppers of Fife, and in a spirit of fun, a mason-callant (boy stone-cutter) had cut a ladle on a stone, beneath which old Edie said were the letters described above, which meant *Aiken Drum's langladle*.

Had the *Journal*, or the President aforesaid, sprung this thing upon us on the first day of April, we might have understood it; but it came in May, which denies to it the character of a joke. When my ancient friend, Jim Dunwell, whilom editor of the *General Advertiser*, bewailed the loss of Earl Carpenter's stock of ice, by the destructiveness of the newly discovered ice worm, specimens of which might be seen at Mr. Carpenter's office, he selected the first of April as the time for the manifestation of his grief.

All this is a tale which out-pickwicks Pickwick himself. This old land plate "valuable relic" is neither more nor less than a *cast-iron back for a fire-place*.



THE HOLBROOK PLATE.

These iron plates were cast in England for those who built houses, and who were sufficiently wealthy to place them in the backs of fire-places, to cover the rough stones then used in the building. Above is an engraving of one owned by Mr. Albert Holbrook, of this city. At the pulling down of an old chimney of a house on North Main street, once owned by Aaron Mason, and before him by Joseph Whipple, this old plate fell with the debris into the cellar. It bears clearly the letters W. T., which it is possible may have stood for William Turpin, a man of some wealth, who lived long near by and whose house was an hostelry, in which for many years the General Assembly held its sessions. The date on this plate is so rudely cut, not cast, as to be almost illegible. This cutting was probably done here, the plate being cast in England. The Willett plate was found in an old chimney, so was this Turpin; it is about twenty inches square, so is this Turpin; it weighs about seventy pounds, so does this Turpin; and it was doubtless well worn by erosion by fire, just as this Turpin is. As time elapsed more graceful forms were introduced upon the castings. This is shown by these two plates. There is, if my memory deceives me not, a fine specimen of these iron fire backs now standing in the huge chimney of an ancient house at Warwick, now owned by Marshall Woods. Even in my own time these plates have been sometimes re-set. My ancient (and accurate) friend, Mr. Charles Sabin, took such a plate from the chimney of his father's or grandfather's house, and set it in a house of his own at Lincoln, wherein upon occasion I have partaken of refreshment—salad, *degustibus* and sherry, *ad lib.*

Possibly I ought to treat more seriously this Pickwickian tale. An iron plate is taken out of the chimney of a house once owned by Francis Willett, a grandson of Thomas. On this plate, which is of cast iron, appears a date, 1660, with no other device whatever.

This particularly blank plate is declared to be a *Land Plate* and to have been secretly buried by Thomas Willett in order to protect his title to the land wherein it was buried. Nothing upon it connects it in the remotest degree with the name Willett, nor is any allusion made upon it to the important function which these gentlemen declare pertained to it. It mentions no boundaries to the lands to which it is claimed that it was evidence of possession in Willett, and yet these gentlemen declare the tenure to be "as good as the exhibition of a written deed." No mention is made of the English statute on which such a tenure rests. Nothing is shown of the time of burial, which it is declared was "secretly done," nor of the exhumation. No attempt is made to carry the antiquity of the plate back of the war of 1812, and to that date only by an apocryphal story of a hostile shot from the English man of war, *Orpheus*. In this tale there is probably not the slightest truth. No British man-of-war ever opened its ports "to fire upon the farm houses along the shore" without giving due notice to defenceless people. Had a shot struck this plate as alleged, would there have remained no mark of impact, but simply a straight crack perpendicularly across it? It cannot be shown that any English man-of-war during the war of 1812 ever sailed alone up Narragansett Bay as far even as the Willett farm. They hovered off the coast sometimes, but always at a respectful distance. Even if it could be shown that this was a *Land Plate*, how could it be shown to have been a *Willett Land Plate*? The absurdity of the idea is apparent upon the slightest reflection. If such a proposition were true, it would not only not protect the title to land, but it would be impossible to buy land from another with safety. Let me suppose a case: Sewall sold land to Willett in 1680, and gave a written evidence describing the lands sold to Willett.

Now suppose Gardner in 1690 claimed the land by virtue of a land plate, which he declared that he had secretly buried in that land in 1678. He then exhumed the plate, which bore the date 1678, and nothing else; nothing about Gardner, nothing about land, and yet such a transaction, according to the writer in the *Journal* and the President of the Barrington Historic-Antiquarian society vests the title in Gardner, neither the original owner and grantor Sewall, nor the grantee Willett being in a position to know anything of the "secret" burial. Publicity is of the very essence of a landmark, or a land plate, or a land deed; something set up, not buried. Set up, to be seen and known of men; in the hypothetical case above Gardner buried his plate in 1688, eight years subsequent to the actual sale of land by Sewall to Willett and antedated it ten years to get back of the written deed of 1680. What safety would there be in buying land under a *Land Plate* title.

The confused account given by the *Journal* is too ridiculous to be discussed, still I must for a moment discuss it. It says in effect that Captain Thomas Willett, one of the first settlers of Swanzea, used this plate to mark certain purchases of land made from Coquinaquond, July 1659. This Indian Sachem did not live on that side of the bay; he belonged to another tribe; he owned no lands in Swanzea, and sold no lands to Willett, either in Swanzea or anywhere else. It says that the recording of deeds at that time was unknown and unheard of. Let it go to the Town Records and see a large number of them recorded.

Then the *Journal* goes on to tell about the bombardment of a farm house in Swanzea by a British man-of-war. The real locality in question was Boston Neck, that land was sold by that particular Indian, not to Willett, but to the Atherton company. This appears in the communication by Mr. Waldron previously al-

luded to, but the account given by President Waldron, of the Barrington Historic-Antiquarian Society, is terribly incorrect. There were seven partners in the Atherton company; hence this imaginary seven manors of which he speaks; *but Thomas Willett was not a partner.* The deed bears date July 4, 1659. The Neck was surveyed about 1660, and divided into eight shares, eight hundred acres having first been given to Atherton. (*Potter's Narr. p. 272.*) President Waldron further says, "the date 1660 being the date of the *confirmation purchase.*" What is the meaning of *confirmation purchase*; either the land passed under the deed of 1659, or it did not pass; but whether it did or did not, Willett was not in 1660 a joint owner, and hence a plate bearing that date could not indicate his ownership of that land, but must have been made for some other purpose.

—
In the preceding article the name William Turpin is introduced. It therefore gives me an opportunity of correcting an error made by Staples in the *Annals of Providence*, page 494, concerning this person. There were two persons bearing this name, father and son; the father died in 1709, according to Mr. Austin's *Genealogical Dictionary*, the son died in 1744. Staples has mixed them badly. In all affairs subsequent to 1709 the son figures instead of the first schoolmaster.

—
Citizens of the United States who have anything at risk, now-a-days, always dread the meeting of Congress and always feel a sense of relief and security when it adjourns; so the sober-minded citizen of Rhode Island looks with anxiety to every session of the General Assembly. A little territory, consisting of a thousand square miles, and containing a population of less than 350,000 people, is actually oppressed by a body of legislators, which body remains in session one-third of every year. Mr. Charles Francis Adams, in a

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., May 23, 1891.

recent letter to the Commercial Congress which met at Kansas City, speaks of the situation outside of Rhode Island. He says: "We are governed altogether too much. This country has rarely been governed so much, or so badly, as it has been within the last twenty-five years. What it needs most of all is, in matters legislative, to be let severely alone." Concerning the evil of which I complain, Mr. Adams says: "In Massachusetts, 290 able-bodied and active-minded legislators, working hard for six months of every year, produce annually a large volume of new laws." A correspondent of Book Notes thus touches upon Rhode Island legislation: "This is the second time in about three years that the Democrats have been in power, and kicked themselves out; and it will continue to be so until there is an entire change in their principles and in their conduct. Instead of receiving protection of his rights from the government for which purpose *alone*

it was created, a citizen here is now taxed to support a government which he is constantly compelled to watch and to fight in order to protect himself against its constant violation of his rights. Governments must be driven back within the limited sphere and kept there." The *Evening Post* holds to these same opinions, and illustrates them with a reference to a recent instance in Massachusetts: "If legislators now-a-days are regarded with contempt (anxiety) they have only themselves to blame for it. The history of the salary grab in the Massachusetts Legislature is a case in point. A bill proposing to increase the salaries of members from \$750 to 1,000 went through the lower house with a rush, the opposition being unable to secure a call of the yeas and nays; subsequently a call was secured, when 71 voted yea and 124 voted nay," in other words most of them were ready to share in what was really a job if they could escape identification, but lacked the courage to stand up and be counted for it. Worse still, a member of the committee which reported the measure says that of the 124 who finally voted against it, more than fifty went before the committee to ask for it."

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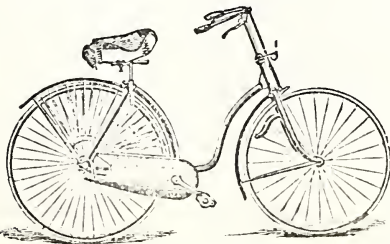


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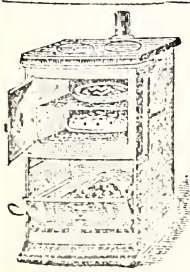
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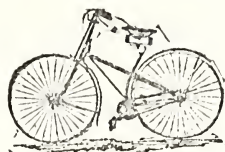
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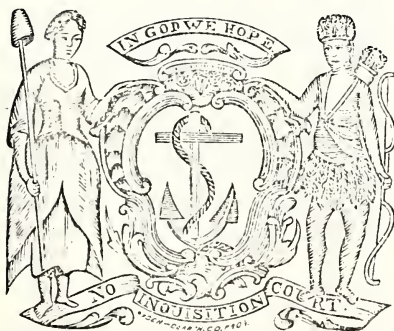
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SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1891.

VOL. 8
No. 12

At the head of the "Schedule" of *Acts and Resolves* of the General Assembly for May, 1763, appeared for the first time the Arms of the King of England. It was, if my heraldry is not at fault, the arms of George the Second, and although George the Third succeeded in 1760, and those cuts were continuously used, nevertheless the arms of that king never appeared at the head of the Rhode Island Schedules. The last Schedule which bore these arms was that of March, 1776. At the head of the Schedule for May, 1776, this new and original cut appears:



The Goddess of Liberty, with her liberty cap, takes the place of the Lion, while an Indian with his bow and arrows holds the place of the Unicorn. The motto, "In God we Hope," appears in

the place of "Honi soit qui mal y pense," and in the place of the legend, "Dieu et mon Droit," is the strange legend, "No Inquisition Court." This legend arose from the intense popular feeling against the commission appointed by the king to "inquire into and report" a true account of all the circumstances concerning the destruction of the "Gaspee," June 10, 1772. In the *Providence Gazette* of December 26, 1772, appears a communication in relation to this commission written in the most inflammatory language, which nothing but revolution would justify, in which the commission is characterized as a "Court of Inquisition," and is further declared to be an "alarming star chamber inquisition." This cut was used but once on the Schedules, but in after years, at all events, in 1782, it appeared on the *Newport Mercury*, since which time it has not been used. While on this subject of the Schedules let me note a few other changes of this revolutionary period:

In October 1773, the letters G. R. (George Rex) were added to the arms of the King, but these were continued only to April, 1775. It had been the custom to close each Schedule with an invocation, "God save the King"; this disappeared in March 1776. No invocation appeared until June, when "God Save the United Colonies" was the form used, and this but one time however; after that it was

"God Save the United States of America," and so it continued until October, 1798, when the country being thought probably able to take care of itself, invocations ceased. In the light of the past two sessions of the General Assembly, the suggestion might not be improper that the invocation, "God save the State of Rhode Island," might not now inappropriately be used.

Mr. R. H. Tilley, of Newport, R. I., has recently begun the publication of a magazine devoted to New England History, which is in fact its name, *Magazine of New England History*. It is to be published quarterly. The second number, that for April 1891, has been published. The price of the magazine is \$2.00 per year. The intention of the publisher is to present original communications, suitable selections and to give large attention to a department of notes and queries. The current number, besides a large instalment of such questions and answers, has two original articles, one of which is upon Robert Williams, of Roxbury, which has much genealogical information concerning several families. Mr. Tilley has republished a large portion of a pamphlet published in Milwaukee in 1887, the author of which endeavors to show that Sergeant John White Paul was with General Barton at the capture of Prescott. At the time of the publication of this pamphlet, BOOK NOTES examined the foundation upon which it rested and reached the conclusion that the author had failed in establishing his point.

Among the queries in the current number of this magazine is one from Texas asking, "which is the oldest church, the one founded in Providence, R. I., by Roger Williams, or the one founded in Newport, R. I., by John Clark?" This has been a vexed question among the Baptists for half a century and is one that will never

be definitely answered. It appears in the Minutes of the Warren Association for 1848. That body then voted, "That the date of 1638 inserted under the name of the First Baptist church in Newport contained in the tabular estimate in the minutes of last year be stricken out and the date be inserted as in the Minutes of the years preceeding." At the same time a committee was appointed to examine the evidence concerning the two dates. This committee consisted of Rev. T. C. Jameson, Rev. J. P. Tustin and Judge Levi Hailo. The dates as before printed had been for Providence, 1639, for Newport, 1644. The purpose of the Newport party was to antedate Providence by one year making their date 1638. This committee reported the following year and their report is in the Warren Minutes 1849, p. 13. They gave the opinion "that the church at Newport was formed certainly before the first of May, 1639, and probably on the 7th March, 1638; they also gave a synopsis of the evidence and the association voted, "that the date 1644, which has appeared in our statistical table as designating the true origin of the First Baptist Church in Newport, be erased and left blank." This action was for the purpose of giving the First Baptist Church in Providence an opportunity to put in an answer, which it did in a *Review of the Report*, prepared by a committee of the church consisting of the pastor, James N. Granger, Alexis Caswell and William Gammell. Their report was printed in 1850. It is an exceedingly acute piece of historical criticism; by far the best piece of historical work of the Rhode Island scholars of the time; one fine flower in a wilderness of weeds. In it the authors admit that Winthrop mentions the establishment of a church, or at least of a preacher in Newport in 1638, but they adroitly raise the question whether that church was Baptist in its character, and the further question whether the First Baptist Church in Newport

was the real successor of this church of which Winthrop speaks. Following this *Review*, came in November 1850, the essay by the Rev. S. Adlam, pastor of the First Newport Church, entitled the *First church in Providence, not the oldest of the Baptists in America*. Thus matters have remained without a definite result. But in its *Minutes* the Warren Association never thereafter affixed any date to the *Newport Church*, while it affixed dates to every other Baptist church and left Providence with the year 1639, as it had always stood. Let us examine this question for a moment on a broader plane. It is to be assumed that by the word church, a religious organization is intended. So far as these two organizations are concerned, neither have *Records* which have any bearing upon the question. To establish either, reliance must be made upon profane history. Hence for Newport we have to rely upon Winthrop's New England, Callender's *Century Discourse* and the R. I. Colonial Records. It is matter of authentic record that Providence was settled in 1636, that Portsmouth was settled in 1638, and that Newport was set off from Portsmouth in 1639. Portsmouth is on record with a church in 1638, Newport was not established until the next year and hence could have had no church before that time. Providence had been settled three years before Newport had any existence. Roger Williams, who settled Providence, was a clergyman. Is it to be supposed that for three years after his settlement he and his fellow settlers had no church or religious organization? and had there been a Baptist clergyman at Newport, why did Roger Williams resort to the baptism of Holiman for a beginning? This is taking it for granted that Winthrop's story of this baptism of Holiman is true; and finally it cannot be argued that because Winthrop mentions a church not at Newport, but on the Island, and does not mention such a fact in connection with Providence, that Provi-

dence had no church; the presumption must be in favor of Providence for the earliest Baptist church in America. BOOK NOTES wishes every possible success for Mr. Tilley's enterprise.

Dr. Timothy Newell, a physician of this city, has written a medical book for popular use, entitled *The Family Doctor*. It has for a secondary title, *Cyclopedia of Domestic Medicine and Hygiene*, alphabetically arranged of course, like a dictionary. The book is partially eclectic, that is, it embraces that which its author considers best in the allopathic, the botanic, and the hygienic methods of combatting disease. Dr. Newell goes largely among the common herbs of the country for remedies, tells their characters, where they live, how they look, and what they will do. He does not suppose that the book will do more than to teach people what to do in the ordinary simple ailments of humanity, or in emergencies till the family doctor himself can be found. Dr. Newell has struggled long and hard for parks for Providence, out of doors breathing places for working people; hence BOOK NOTES is happily pleased to note the positions taken in his book on school hygiene, school hours, and the necessity of physical training for young people. The articles on exercise and physical training, carefully mastered and followed, would enable a man to dispense with family doctors for years to come; they are admirable. Substitute physical for mental labor during one-half of every school-day and we should have much healthier and much better educated people than we now have. There is too much school study—everybody knows it—why don't everybody do something to stop it? Dr. Newell was in practice here with Dr. Capron many years ago; hence he has had the experience of a lifetime, all of which he has written in this book; prescriptions which he has successfully written for thousands of cases, are here care-

fully printed in English so that everybody can understand them, and he discloses to you how to use them. So with gruels and other forms of diet for sick people; not one person in ten thousand knows how to prepare and use these simple but most effective things. In his preface Dr. Newell informs us that he has based his treatise upon the *Popular Medicine* of Drs. Capron and Slack, of 1846, and so indeed he has, but the *Family Doctor* is a capital indicator of the great advance made in medical science since that day, as is shown in the following subjects treated in this work but not mentioned in the previous one: Malaria, Sleep, "Catching" Cold, Hygiene, Marriage, Tobacco, Sewerage, Voyages and Sea Air, School, Hygiene, Sanitary Plumbing, Public Health, and last but not least, "How to handle an inordinate appetite." A number of anatomical plates assists in understanding the text. The Doctor describes the causes of disease, and in the plainest manner the symptoms, for in acute diagnosis lies the greatest difficulty. If he could only tell us how by some sure and certain method to discover what ails us, his book would be a boon indeed. His book is beautifully illustrated and well printed on excellent paper, and is altogether a creditable production, octavo in form, and sells for \$3.50.

The operations of the human mind are so peculiar in character as to be quite outside of the comprehension of the mind itself. The human mind does not understand the method of its own work. Why do you think what you think? The other day, as the writer was walking down street and passing through "Asia" street, a tall, well dressed man crossed the street and accosted me thus: "Can you tell me where Mr. Eddy's son-in-law lives about here?" "Well, possibly I could if you were to tell me his name." "Ah! that's just what I've forgot," said he. "Then it's Fred Anthony you're after," said I.

The man's face was the picture of amazement. "By jove!" said he, "that's him, and I've tried every way to think of his name, how did *you* do it?" And that is just what I couldn't tell him. There is a placard in Mr. Adie's late residence on Westminster street giving people the place, No. 1 Adie street, where applications for examination of the house must be made. Somehow, it passed instantly through my mind that the man had mistaken "Asia" for "Adie" street, and that he had pronounced Adie, Eddy,—all of which was just what happened. Now can you explain the mental process?

An excellent picture produced by some one of the modern processes of reproduction has been sent to BOOK NOTES by Mr. Rufus C. Hartranft, publisher, 709 Sansom street, Philadelphia, entitled, *Don and the Babies*. Don is a great Newfoundland dog, and the two babies are his best two friends, and Don is lying down between them. Mr. Hartranft informs us that the picture was enlarged from a cabinet photograph from life. Then all that BOOK NOTES has to say is, the photographer was a master at his business, and he had three admirable subjects for materials with which to form his group. The picture is will nigh perfect. Mr. Hartranft will send copies on receipt of \$1 by post.

Retail stores which were never before closed to business on a legal holiday were closed here last Saturday, which was Decoration, or Memorial Day. Either the patriotic devotion of the owners to the memory of the unpensioned dead is on the increase, or trade is dull. There was never before such an universal closing of places of business. This fact taken in connection with another fact, the throwing of whole stocks of miscellaneous goods on the market at retail at one half the prices asked by the same owners for the same goods, tells a tale which no amount of bombastic advertising can cover up.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., June 6, 1891.

A curious collection of pamphlets (14) concerning the Onderdonk scandal, among which is the Ecclesiastical Trial of that prelate, is for sale at BOOK NOTES' place of publication, 61 Snow street.

The *Journal* utters a howl of righteous indignation at the efforts of laborers in the General Assembly to right their wrongs,—and then sinks an artesian well in a public highway in order to beat the city out of a water tax, and the authorities permit it.

In the *St. Nicholas* for June Mr. John Burroughs has a delightful *Talk about wild Flowers*, illustrated with admirable wood-cuts. Nothing short of colors could be finer. How much pleasure is lost to the excellent people who go into the country from towns during the summer season for the lack of just the kind of knowledge which Burroughs gives. For my part, I wish *St. Nicholas* would print just such an article every month.

The Hand-To-Hand Club, 42 University Place, New York, has sent to the writer of BOOK NOTES a circular letter, in the first sentence of which the club has "sized up" the said writer, with exactness, "Regardless of political opinions we believe you to be anxious for the triumph of truth." I can't understand how this club discovered it, but that is my political platform. Now, says the club, we send you Mr. Henry George's *Protection or Free Trade* and we ask you to make as extended a notice of the book as your space will permit. All that I shall say is, that the club has printed, or is now printing, 500,000 copies of this book, in paper covers, which are to be sold in lots of 10, or 1000, at 10 cents per copy, for the education of the masses of the people on the Tariff that vampire, which is, day and night, and all the time, sucking the life blood out of them. Give a copy to every man or woman who will read it. The American people are now ripe for this question and Mr. George's book is admirable.

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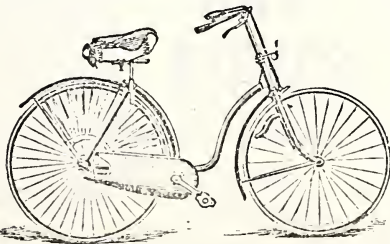
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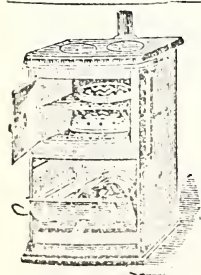
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VOL. 8
No. 13

In no department of reading has the writer ever found more amusement than in that relating to the treatment of human diseases in England in the times long gone by. Here is a little book published in London by Melchisedeck Bradwood, in 1606. The title is somewhat lengthy, but it is sufficiently curious to print here in full. [A Copy of a Letter written by E. D., Doctour of Physicke to a Gentlemen by whom it was published. The former part containeth rules for the preservation of health, and preventing of all diseases vntil extreme olde age. Herein is inserted the Author's opinion of Tobacco. The latter is a discourse of Empiricks or vnlearned physicians, wherein is plainly proved that the practice of all those which have not been brought up in the grammar and vniversity is always confused, commonly dangerous and often deadly. Honour the Physician with that honour that is due vnto him, for the Lord hath created him.] This little book, a small quarto of fifty pages, has in it more downright fun, arising no doubt from the downright seriousness on the part of the author, than any book published with a view to being funny ever possessed. I often wonder whether the man who writes BOOK NOTES in the year 2176, which is just as far ahead of us as this book is behind us, will look at the medical treatises of to-day as we look upon this one.

Here is another treatise of a somewhat later date, having been published in London in 1652. It is by Ralph Williams, Practitioner in Physick and Chyrurgerie. The title runs thus: [Physical Rarities, containing the most choice Receipts of Physick and Chyrurgerie for the cure of diseases incident to man's body, being a rich jewell kept in the cabinet of a famous doctor in this Nation, stored with admirable secrets and approved medicines.] The little book is exceedingly small, being less than our sixteen mo. in size, and with 172 pages. To it has been annexed [The Learned Work of Hermes Trismegistus intituled *Iatromathematica*, that is His Physical Mathematicques, or Mathematical Physicks directed unto Ammon the Egyptian, a book of special great use for all students in Astrology and Physick.] Another little book of the same period and similar in size is minus a title page, but has this running half title remaining: [The Historie of Generation; the Opinion of Philosophers concerning Generation.] Nothing would be more amusing than the publication of extracts from these little books; but they are unsuitable for the general reader.

Akin to the subject but yet entirely different is [The Interpretation of Dreams by that most celebrated Philosopher, *Artemidorus*, first written in Greek, being a treatise of great value and esteem and

very useful and entertaining for all sorts of People.] Nothing can be more fanciful than the grounds of interpretation for dreams as given in this amusing book. The Herbal is still largely used among Englishmen the world over. Here is one by Nicholas Culpepper, Gent. The title is, [The English Physician enlarged with 369 medicines made of English Herbs that were not in any Impression (edition) until this: London, 1741.] This book was very largely used. The author declared himself an enemy of the Royal College of Physicians in London; and undertook to tell us which planet governeth every herb or tree used in physick, and many other wonderful things. There was a book printed here in Providence in 1814, and written by Hosea Humphrey, Physician, the appendix to which is filled with directions for curing diseases, many of which are not less curious in character than those which are found in the books mentioned above. All these books are for sale by the publisher of BOOK NOTES, at 61 Snow street.

The Narragansett Club began operations by issuing a prospectus giving an account of what it proposed to do, and showing a specimen page of publication. The first book to be published was Williams' Key to the Language of America, (Indian,) to which the Club said there would be prefixed "a Brief Biography of Roger Williams, with a sketch of his life," by Reuben A. Guild. This prospectus was acutely criticised in the *Boston Advertiser* by a writer over the signature of D. He made much fun over the question as to what a brief biography would be which did not include a sketch of his life. The writer was Charles Deane. In course of time the Club had published the first three volumes of these publications, and Mr. Charles Deane wrote an elaborate and highly commendatory notice of them which was published in the *North American Review* for April, 1868,

vol. 106, p. 673. He begins his paper with this sentence: "In the month of June, 1643, Roger Williams embarked at New York for his native land." He thus perpetuated a date which, had he referred to the 217th page, note 386, of the first of the three volumes which he was describing, he would have discovered to be a gross error, most cleverly exposed by Dr. J. Hammond Trumbull, who edited the first volume of the publication. This only shows how so acute a scholar as was Mr. Deane might on another occasion easily slip.

There probably never was a time in the history of industrial art when the aid of illustrations was more generously invoked by business men in all branches to introduce their goods and illustrate their advantages. The Ryder & Dearth Co., engravers and printers, of 146 Westminster street, Providence, R. I., are thoroughly alive to all needs in this line, and make cuts and electrotype suitable for every desired purpose, in first class style and at the most moderate rates.

In speaking of Constitution Hill, the name still occasionally applied to a certain locality in Providence. Mr. Dorr says, "Constitution Hill, which alone of all the parts of Town street had a well marked beginning and end, yet retains its popular designation; the name sufficiently indicates the period of its origin."—*R. I. Hist. Tract*, 15, p. 252. In the same connection, Mr. Dorr speaks of the "changes of three generations," say ninety years; and still further of the "long suffering of eighty years ago," from all of which he would have us infer that the name arose from the struggle connected with the adoption in 1790 of the U. S. Constitution; and this would be the natural inference. But it must have had a different origin. In the *Providence Gazette*, Jan. 2, 1773, there is an advertisement of Arnold's Statera, or the American

Balance, which it is stated stands at the junction of "Constitution and Mill streets." The advertisement bears date December 5, 1772. Constitutions, in accordance with the modern use of the term, had not then been suggested. It is evident that the origin of this name is more obscure than upon the first thought it appears. Mr. Hugh H. Brown, once much given to lore of this kind, gives us no light.

Mr. John F. Huntsman, of Providence, R. I., has prepared a little pamphlet entitled *Life Insurance, how protected*. The purpose of the author is, to show how the annual premium on a life policy is made, and why it is so made: thus, a person at thirty-five years of age, pays, say \$26.00 annually on each \$1000 issued, and this payment is not increased as the person grows older, notwithstanding the fact of the risk being greater. Now why was this precise sum fixed? and that is just what Mr. Huntsman has very clearly and concisely told you in his little pamphlet. A word further he might have said by telling you how this present system arises and who the men were who devised it. It arises from the studies of Richard Price, a very learned Welshman, who promulgated it in his *Observations on Reversionary Payments and Annuities* in 1769. Later came Francis Baily with his *Life Tables* and his Doctrine of Interest and Annuities, and thereupon the whole system rests to this day.

The law which required the publication of Town Tax Books, in which the tax on land and the tax on improvements were assessed separately, and printed in separate columns, and which was repealed by the General Assembly after having been a law exactly one year, disclosed a remarkable condition of things. A case from Hopkinton has come to BOOK NOTES where a man was taxed under the former method on a piece of land and improvements on a valuation of \$1000. The

assessors under the new law were obliged to separate the land from the improvements. The only "improvement" was a tumble-down old barn unsuitable for any use save kindling-wood. All that the land would bear was \$600; so the assessors in order to get as much money out of the tax-payer as had been taken before, were obliged to put a tax value on the old barn of \$400, when as a matter of fact no one would have paid ten dollars for it. The law, had it not been repealed, could soon have corrected such an outrage as that.

BOOK NOTES thanks President Angell of the University of Michigan, for the latest Catalogue of the institution. It is in fact a volume, having 250 pages, and the names of nearly 2500 students, for whom are required 135 professors and instructors. There were in 1890 more than 500 graduates. Among these graduates were seven women Homeopathic physicians and two women Dentists. Women are admitted to every department on the same conditions as men. There were eighteen women graduated as Allopathic physicians; eight women took the degree of Bachelor of Arts; one as Master of Science, and one Master of Philosophy. There were ten degrees of Master of Arts conferred, of which five were taken by women.

There came to the General Assembly a man who dwelt in Providence, and who was a house-carpenter, whose name was "Wonderful" Pike. The poor man, driven doubtless to distraction by being called wonderful every day of his life, asked the General Assembly to prefix "William" to his wonderful name. "Joktan" Putnam was another singular prenomem which figured occasionally before the Assembly about the same time.

It began, baccarat; it ended, bag-a-rat.

Louise was the maiden all for Lorne;
But the Prince was the man all tattered and torn.

A Souvenir of the Confederacy.

It is in the form of a collection of sheet music published in the South during the war of the Rebellion, gathered and neatly bound. Among the pieces are "Stonewall Jackson's Grand March," published in February, 1864, written by Charles Young; the piece has eight pages, and the price was \$2.00; the advertisement calls for "a beautiful lithographic likeness of the immortal Stonewall" on the title page, but which is unfortunately omitted to be printed there by the publisher. Then comes "General Braxton Bragg's Grand March," composed by P. Rivinac. "The Volunteer, or it is My Country's Call," written by Harry Macarthy,—published in 1861. "Three Cheers for Jack Morgan, a Camp Song," 1864.

"Jack Morgan is his name,
The fearless and the lucky,
No dastard foe can tame
The son of old Kentucky."

"Dixie War Song," composed by A. Noir, the song itself being written by H. S. Stanton, Esq. "God will defend the Right," written and composed by a lady of Richmond.

"Think on our noble sires,
Immortal in renown;
Think on our altar fires,
And strike the oppressor down."

The last line seems to suggest that the "Lady" had overlooked the fact that their fight was to defend the Slave System. Mrs. C. D. Elder, of New Orleans, wrote a poem entitled the "Confederate Flag," which was set to music by Mr. G. George. The poem begins—

"Bright Banner of Freedom
With pride I unfold thee."

Mrs. Elder, like the "Lady from Richmond," overlooks the fact that the Confederate Flag was the Banner of Slavery and not of Freedom. This was published in 1861. "The Flag of the Sunny South" came next; it was with the words by E. V. Sharp, and the "melody" by J. H. Hewitt, and was dedicated to the

"Independent soul never courts a smile
Or bends beneath a frown."

Mr. Hewitt, to whom we are indebted for the "melody," was a music dealer at Augusta, Ga. Then comes a "National Hymn,"—"God Save the South," "Pro aris et Focis." The song was written by Ernest Halphin, and the music by C. W. A. Ellerbrock. The price for this piece was \$1 50.

"God save the South,
Her altars and firesides.

—
Chaunting our battle cry,
Freedom or death."

The "Southern Marseillaise," written in French and English. The arrangement was for the piano, by A. E. Blackman, who was its publisher, a music dealer at Augusta. Who arranged the French and English is not told, but here is a specimen: Allons enfants de la Patrie
Le jour de glorie est arrive,
Contre nous de la tyrannie
Le tendard sanglant est le ve.

Sons of the South awoke to glory,
A thousand voices bid you rise,
Your children, wives, and grandsires hoary
Gaze on you now with trusting eyes.

This piece must have been very popular, the present copy being of the 5th edition. "Boys, Keep your Powder dry" was arranged for the Piano by F. C. Mayer, and dedicated it "To the Southern Boys." In the days of '61 there came the "Southron's Watchword," written by M. F. Bigney, and the music by Stephen Gloom. Like the two ladies, Mr. Bigney begins—

"What shall the Southron's watchword be,
Fighting the battles of liberty."

This same gentleman wrote another song, the "Stars of our Banner," the music was by Alice Lane. It has this couplet:

"If courage our triumph shall merit,
Then Freedom shall be our reward."

But what becomes of the negro?

"Short Rations" was dedicated to the corn-fed army of the Tennessee; itself says the words were concocted by Ye Tragic, music gotten up by Ye Comic, and it has a picture of a head of a jackass at an empty manger in the act of exclaiming, "not satisfied." It must be Balaam's for his was the only "ass" which talked.

This very rare and curious Souvenir of the Confederacy is for sale at 61 Snow street.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., June 20, 1891.

In a communication from Commissioner Smith to the Board of Aldermen concerning water rates, the following sentence appears: "The rates for water to all persons using meters were reduced January 1, 1891, from three cents to two cents per one hundred gallons, making a discount of 33 per cent. from the rates paid heretofore by a large majority of the consumers." That sentence has a delightfully pleasant sound to the poor householder, but somehow when he pays his water tax the discount don't seem to materialize. No,—the sentence as written does not state the fact,—and if it did state the fact, it ought not to be the rule. Reductions in water rates should be made not to a "large majority," but to the whole people, to the poor householders just the same as to the rich owners of the Hoppin Homestead Building,—and that is just what has

not been done,—and when the poor householder undertakes to sink an artesian well in the public highway, the authorities somehow find a way to stop *him*.

Stephen Franklin, a former resident of Block Island, has the proud record of being probably the only individual ever exempted by special act of the General Assembly from the operation of any of the laws of Rhode Island. Had he committed a crime, even murder, he could not have been punished, for he was specially protected by act of the Assembly, which protection continued four years.

He came along down by John Minchin the printer's house. The day was warm and the windows open. Through the screens he saw John, in his shirt-sleeves, tending baby,—as pretty a one year old as ever was seen. John smiled, and he smiled; and he asked, is that a type of the family? and John said. Yes, a diamond type.

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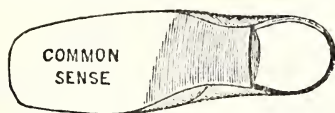
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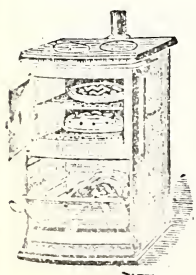
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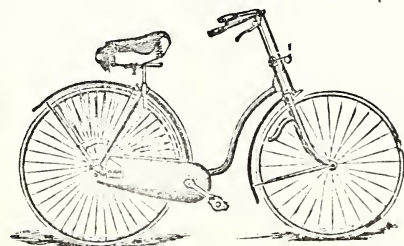


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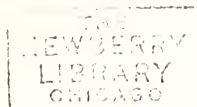
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BOOK NOTES

HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

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SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1891.

Vol. 1
No. 1

"These Words are Razors."

My excellent friend, J. Erastus Lester, Esq., at a meeting of people in favor of enlarging Blackstone Park, made some remarks which I find thus quoted in the *Journal*:

"Mr. Lester again rose to speak, saying with some warmth that he didn't think he was debarred from criticising Mr. Cleveland's plans, just because they had been adopted by the City Council. He doubted if all the wisdom in the city was concentrated in the Council. Mr. Lester then took up the matter of the fountain, taking occasion in passing to attack the fountain in Hayward Park, which he defined as one "with all sorts of figures stuck on a post and spouting all sizes of streams into an ill formed basin. These cast iron affairs weren't good specimens of art." He also objected to the statue of Roger Williams at the Park on account of its representing the founder of the State with a clean shaven face. Roger Williams, he said, couldn't have had a shaven face, because razors weren't in use till after he was dead."

BOOK NOTES will not attempt to defend the concentrated wisdom of the City Council, nor will it defend the Hayward Park fountain,—it is execrable,—but when Mr. Lester comes to attack Roger Williams, whom he says "could not have had a shaven face," as he is represented at Roger Williams Park in the statue by my excellent friend Simmons, "because razors were not in use till after he was

dead." BOOK NOTES must come to the rescue. Mr. Williams may have shaved his beard, or he may not have shaved his beard, but if he did not shave it, it was not because razors were not in use. "Sequens gentium consensus in tonsoribus fuit sed Romanis tardior, in Italium ex Sicilia venire post Romam conditam anno quodringentesimo quinquagesimo quarto adducente P. Titinio Mena ut auctor est Varro, antea intonsi fuera, primus omnium radi cotidie instituit Africanus arquens, divos Augustus cultris semper usus est." Thus saith Plinius Secundus, in his *Naturalis Historia*, Bk. 37, cp. 59, written about A. D. 75. All of which means in the vernacular of BOOK NOTES, according to its limping translation, that barbers were brought to Rome in the year of the city 454, from Sicily. Pliny informs us that the first barber in the procession was one P. T. Mena, and that he relies upon Varro for the truthfulness of the story. If we accept Varro's chronology of Rome, the date of this transaction was B. C. 300, or about 1950 years before the time of Roger Williams. At this time Pliny says Scipio Africanus caused his face to be shaved every day,—and coming down a matter of 300 years, Pliny says that Augustus Caesar always shaved himself with a razor, which little operation took place some 1650 years before the time of Williams. There

occurs a passage in Plutarch's *Life of Theseus* like this: "Alexander (the Great) gave command to his captains' that all the beards of the Macedonians should be shaved, as being the readiest hold for an enemy." This was written by Plutarch in the first Christian century, and narrates a circumstance which took place before a system of accurate dates began. But to go back still further, sculpture pictures the faces of the Egyptian kings with shaven faces, even to the XVIII Dynasty, a period Heaven only knows how much before Alexander's time. The origin of the razor, like the origin of Rome, is lost in antiquity. But let us come down to later times and read what Shakespeare says of razors. In the *First of Henry IV*, Act 3, Scene 3, Falstaff twits the Hostess with the fact that his pocket was picked in her hostelry. She denies the impeachment, and declares that "the tithe of a hair was never lost in my house." "You lie, Hostess. Bardolph was shaved and lost many a hair." The time was 1403, and Shakespeare wrote in 1597. Bear a moment with me while I draw again upon the Bard Immortal. In the Temple of Diana at Ephesus, Pericles beholds a vision, and closes a little speech thus:

"And now

This ornament that makes me look so dismal,
Will I my lov'd Marina, clip to form;
And what this fourteen years no razor touched
To grace thy marriage day I'll beautify."

One more illustration from Shakespeare and then I've done with him. Titus Andronicus replies to Saturninus, "These words are razors to my wounded heart." (Act 1, Sc. 2.) This, my excellent friend retorts, is only poetry. Well, history then tells, that when Christianity was introduced into England, (A. D. 575.) the clergy were made by law to shave, but the Princes of the blood were allowed to wear moustaches. This privilege at a later period (1066) William the Conqueror withdrew. Possibly my excellent friend

when he sees the reflection of his own luxurious beard, imagines that razors were not only unknown to Williams, but that he has himself not yet discovered such an instrument; or mayhap he is a Gymnosophist, one of those ancient philosophers of India who believed that long beards were symbolical of wisdom; but if still he is unconvinced, I can only refer him to the source whence I drew so much learning, to wit., Bulwer's *Anthropometamorphosis*, and Pitiscus's *Lexicon Antiquitatum Romanorum*. No,—if Roger Williams shaved not his beard, it was not for lack of his knowledge of a razor.

Curiosities of Rhode Island Town Histories.

I

An extremely amusing article might be written by extracting from the Town Histories, published here, some of the extraordinary things told *as history* by the writers of them. Here is a specimen or two from the Rev. Mr. C. C. Beaman's *Historical Sketch of Scituate*. This gentle man was a most sincere and confiding clergyman, now gone to his reward. With ears attuned to the music of belief he listened, in his inquisitive search, and carefully wrote what they to whom he listened told him. No,—one, to write history well, must be like Eumæus, in the *Odyssey*, when Ulysses, *incog.*, told him that Ulysses would yet return—"resolute in his unbelief." Of all the sins of historical writers credulity stands second only to mendacity. A historical writer should insist, like Thomas Didymus, on placing his hand upon the print of the nails. Mr. Beaman says (p. 26), that "Gov. West was quite a farmer and kept a great many cows, and he would often set off with a load of cheese to sell valued at \$1500." How often we are not told, Gov. West lived about ten miles west from Providence, on the Chopmist Hills. When he dwelt there, about 1780, cheese

was sold at six pence (now 8 cents), per pound, hence a load of cheese valued at \$1500, must weigh 18,750 pounds, or nearly ten tons. With a hundred cows, about how many times during a season would Gov. West transport such a load to Providence, his nearest market?

Mr. Beaman has a narrative (p. 31) of a famous squirrel hunt said to have taken place in 1784. It was a contest between the towns of Scituate and Gloucester as to which should kill the greater number. The hunt was to last ten days. Men, women and boys turned out; even the "dogs entered heartily into the work." The "squirrels taken by surprise," were slaughtered in great numbers and piled in "heaps about the size of hay cocks," arranged "on each side of the line between the towns opposite to each other," the heads and one fore foot of each squirrel been thus gathered. The town line along which these heaps are alleged to have being gathered was ten miles in length. What must have been the condition of the atmosphere along this double row of decaying heads, unburied for ten days, and who would count such a mass, and yet good Mr. Beaman declares they were counted, for he says, "Scituate beat Gloucester by several thousands."

An exceeding funny story appears on page 14. In 1703 Joseph Wilkinson came to live in Scituate. He married Martha Pray, a granddaughter of one of the first settlers. There was a crooked road leading from Providence at this time. He built the first barn in what is now Scituate and brought the first cow into the town. It would be impossible to construct a more ridiculous tale than that. Three generations of men had dwelt in Scituate before Wilkinson brought the first cow in 1703. Cows were at Apponaug in 1638, and in Providence at an earlier date, and Scituate was a part of Providence. No such town or name as Scituate was known until 1730; how then

could the first cow be brought into the town in 1703? Are not all roads leading into the country crooked? Why then note the fact that this particular road was crooked?

Two or three laughable absurdities only are here spoken of, but as a work of historical reference, the book is like a treacherous quicksand, in proof of which I cite the history of the Six Principle Baptist church on page 47.

Philippa.

A little unpretending book dropped down upon us one day, by name, *Philippa*. It purports to have been written by Ella, of course a pseudonym, and it is one among the "unknown" library published by Cassell. Extrinsic circumstances induce me to look more carefully into this book than is common for books of its class, for Ella is a lady well known in the best society here in Providence. Philippa, the heroine, is with her mother, a widow travelling about Europe, "under a cloud," the nature of which cloud is adroitly concealed. Her character is brought strongly out by the influence, which is seen and felt upon other people rather than by any delineation in the story; first, upon her mother, which is subtle, but loving; second, upon a child whom by chance she met. The astounding quickness with which a child discerns character in a woman has seldom been so well set forth, and lastly upon Tom O'Hara, a young Irishman, who being upon his travels, was one day brought face to face with her in a compartment car. O'Hara saw the care which Philippa exercised over her mother and the subtle influence of which I have spoken, which he well knew could proceed only from intrinsic excellence of character. In a gentlemanly way he sought her acquaintance and ultimately followed her half round the globe, despite her being under the cloud. For this reason Philippa had

resolutely declined his offer of marriage, but now, motherless and fatherless, alone in the world, he again sought and besought her, and she accepted, overcome by that great happiness which a woman feels when sought even in the uttermost parts of the earth by an upright and honest man and strong withal, she being to him before all other human beings. Philippa is a clever story, charmingly told. The plot is simple and well developed; the style is vigorous and devoid of sickening sentimentality, disfigured neither by slang words nor by Yankeeisms, the story is told in plain and simple English, and fortunately without those disfiguring accessories, French idioms. BOOK NOTES does not hesitate in saying that Philippa, although a first effort, is an unqualified success.

Messrs. Lee & Shepard have published among the latest issues in their *Good Company Series*, a novel entitled, *Which Wins?* by Mary H. Ford. It is as its author says, a story of social conditions. That is to say, that John Thurston, the hero of the story, was what some people call an idealist; others, a crank; and still others, a lunatic. He was a land holding reformer and a labor reformer. Cost him what it might, he held rigidly to his own convictions of right towards all his fellow men in these and in all other relations, and his reward was that which followed John Huss and Philip Melancthon; they became paupers and were burned at the stake. So in effect it was with John Thurston; the girl whom he loved couldn't see his admirable qualities until she had married somebody else, and seen John breathe out his soul in aspirations of hope for his fellow men. His property withered and disappeared and he died a pauper, while those who antagonized him, grew rich in this world's goods, got away his farm and held all the honors. And yet the author styles her novel *Which Wins?* The answer comes in the adroit

way in which she has introduced the whips and stings of conscience under which these worldly prosperous people suffer, while nothing of the kind afflicted John Thurston; he had lived a life of honesty, both with himself and his Maker, and he came to his death as an honest man should, fearless of being face to face with God. Young man, cost what it may, stand rigidly to the convictions of right; remember, that paradoxical as it reads, this life won't end with death, and you will wish to enter with decency upon the new existence, and that is the moral of this novel.

The *Cleveland Examiner* comes to me with an elaborate article on the Union Steel Screw Company's works at that city. Among other interesting things the article tells of a machine for making boxes, which will do as much work in a given time as can be done by five men and sixty girls. The company use five such machines, thus dispensing with the labor of 25 men and 300 women. The article then informs me that "this is an American invention, a child of *Protection*." I had supposed that necessity was the mother of invention. What sort of "protection" is that which takes away the work of 325 people, and cuts down the wages of the remainder of the "help"?

The *Cleveland Examiner* comes to me with this profound remark, "The great political and economic issue of the future is Protection vs. Free Trade" and advises me "to read the tariff articles on both sides of the question." Well, I hadn't supposed there were any *tariff* articles on the Free Trade side, and as for "Protection" it is incapable of defence by argument. It is neither more nor less than highway robbery. Just such a "question" once existed here. It was then called the question between Slavery and Freedom. Just what happened to that will happen to this—and who got hurt?

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., June 20, 1891.

A subscriber complains that Book NOTES did not state fairly the case of the taxation and sale of James C. Bucklin's estate on Clifford street. It was stated by me (April 25), that the property was taxed for \$8220 and sold under a mortgage for \$5200. I find that a strip of land was sold at private sale before the mortgage sale for \$1000. Thus the estate sold for \$2000 instead of \$3000 less than it was taxed. What I desired to show and what was truly shown, was that Bucklin's homestead was overtaxed. The truth is, that the homes of the people here are all overtaxed. The consequence is that the ability of the poor householder to pay his extra tax is crippled, because of the levy in the forms of rents made upon him by those, principally corporations, who, under our extraordinary legislation, now chiefly escape taxation. The tenant on Westminster street is simply the catspaw used for obtaining the chestnut. The tax assessor is not the individual who adds

to the selling value of your house by any figuring he may make, and don't you forget it.

A very pretty novel is published by Lee & Shepard, entitled *Sweet and Twenty*, written by Mary Farley Sanborn. Of course, no book with a name like that could be other than a love story. A couple of young people met under propitious circumstances and fell in love. I can't blame Morris Redmayne for falling in love with Lydia Gareth,—almost anybody would have fallen,—besides, this falling in love is awfully easy—a good deal like rolling off a log, and a good deal more natural. Young folks (and old ones too as for that) take as naturally to it as ducks to the water,—but to this story: It is as clear and bright as a June morning, and moves along with that delightful quietness which everybody loves,—no dreadful scenes afflict the timid reader, nor duels, nor dire catastrophies, but a spirit of fun is interwoven by the character of Nan, a sister of Lydia's, and irrepressible,—in fact, had she lived in Providence she would have been the President of the Irrepressibles. *Sweet and Twenty* is sweet and pretty.

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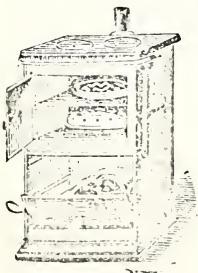
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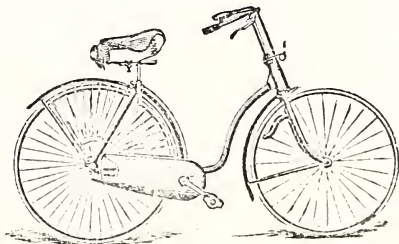


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HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

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Fortnightly.

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1891.

VOL. 8
No. 15

HOW RHODE ISLAND CAME BY TWO CAPITALS.

Some one asks the San Francisco Examiner "Why has Rhode Island two capitals?" The answer given was, that Rhode Island and Providence Plantations were founded separately, and the two capitals are relics of the old division maintained by local prejudice"—and a correspondent asks BOOK NOTES, "Have you anything to say on the subject?" In its earlier years the Colony of Rhode Island comprised four towns: Newport, Portsmouth, Providence and Warwick. The General Assembly was a perambulatory body, meeting in rotation at each of these four towns. The idea was, that it was easier for the Assembly to go to the people than for the people to go to the Assembly. The first meeting of this body under the charter of Charles the Second was called by the charter at Newport, and a Colonial government was then and there set up; and each year thereafter the people were to meet at that place (Newport) to elect a Governor and other State officers; but the Assembly continued to hold its sessions at the four towns as it had done before. This arrangement continued three quarters of a century. In 1733 a law was enacted requiring one of the meetings to be held at South Kingstown; Portsmouth being very near to Newport, had been

abandoned for several years. Soon after, sessions were occasionally held at East Greenwich, and in a few years Warwick, being very near that town and also near Providence, was abandoned, and thus for more than a century, sessions were held in four towns, as had been first begun, although the towns had been changed,—they were, Providence, Newport, East Greenwich and South Kingstown. By the Constitution of 1842, five towns were designated as places of sessions of the General Assembly thus Newport, South Kingstown, Bristol, East Greenwich and Providence. In 1854 the constitution was amended directing the holding of one session annually, at Newport, and an adjournment thereof at Providence, and so it still continues. No law was ever enacted erecting two capitals. The State offices and the State archives are all at Providence, where they were brought many years since; but the counting of the votes for State officers and the proclaiming of the Governor is still annually continued at Newport as of yore, and a three or four days' session of the Assembly, prolific of evil legislation, is still held there.

The earliest Court House, or Colony House, or State House as we now call it, was erected at Newport between the years 1687 and 1691; that at Kingston was second. Previously to the erection of these

houses, the General Assembly met at the private houses of different men when conveniently located. In Newport, before the colony house was built, the house of John Davis was used. On one occasion, while so sitting, the Governor being sick, the Assembly adjourned to sit in the Governor's house, and the business being finished there, adjourned back to Davis's house. Another house in Newport thus used at the same period was that of William Maize. This person (written Mews) was charged by the English Board of Trade with being a pirate, and the Colony with allowing him to be fitted for sea at Newport. This charge Governor Cranston denies, (writing the name Mayse,) saying that the gentleman went on a trading voyage to Madagascar, with a lawful commission to fight the French. I do not find the gentleman's name in Johnson's *History of the Pirates*, wherein is that of Thomas Tew, a Newport citizen with a precisely similar commission. From this digression let me return to the General Assembly.

In 1683 the infamous Edward Cranfield was commissioned by the English government to hold a court for the judicial decision of certain cases concerning titles to land wherein he was a party pecuniarily interested. He held the court at Richard Smith's house at Wickford, now owned by Mr. Babbitt. He summoned the General Assembly, which body was in session at a private house in Warwick. The Assembly adjourned to meet immediately at the house of John Fones, on Boston Neck below Wickford, and within a mile of Cranfield's court; members mounted their horses and took to the road, passing directly by Cranfield's court without stopping. From Capt. Fones's house an order was issued to Cranfield prohibiting him and his associates from "keeping court in any part of the jurisdiction," and further ordering the "said pretended court" to depart "in pain of contempt of his majesty's authority," (R. I. Col. Rec. v 3,

p 130.) In 1676, while the great Indian war was raging, the Assembly was sitting at Newport; it adjourned "to assemble againe at Henry Palmer's house in Newport," at which session it directed the sheriff to invite certain "most judicious" men to consult with them. The men were specially named, and it is a singular fact that Roger Williams was not counted among the "most judicious." The Assembly passed at this session the following comical vote: "That this Assembly sit in the time of election in the kitchen of this house."—(Col. Rec., V. 2, p. 541.)

It thus appears that during all its history down to 1854, the General Assembly met at from four to six different places annually. Were each of these places "capitals"? Was Capt. John Fones's house a "capital"? Certainly not; nobody in Rhode Island ever considered them in that light; nor did anybody outside of Rhode Island so consider them. The map makers and the writers of Geographies and Gazetteers were during the latter portion of these years giving the State two, and only two, capitals. Neither the people nor their representatives appear ever to have established two "capitals." It must then have been done by people outside of Rhode Island. Let us investigate: Morse, in his "Geography," 1792, makes no mention of capitals in his account of Rhode Island; neither does he mention capitals in his "American Universal Geography," 1793; yet in both books he gave minute accounts of the political arrangements here. Carey's "American Pocket Atlas," 1814, giving a description of each State, mentions no capital. Guthrie's "Geographical Grammar," 1815, mentions Newport and Providence as being "principal towns," but mentions neither as capitals. Pease, in his "Gazetteer of Connecticut and Rhode Island," 1819, mentions no two capitals, but he speaks of Providence as the "semi-metropolis of the State," but Mr. Pease does not mention Newport as being the

other half. In 1822, Luke Drury published in Providence a "Geography," with "an Atlas of Forty Luminous and Concise Maps," in which no mention is made of either Newport or Providence as capitals. In 1832, Mr. T. Flint published a "History and Geography of the Mississippi Valley," in which the "Atlantic United States" were included. He gives an account of Rhode Island, in which he says "Newport, which shares the seat of government alternately with Providence." Brooks, in his "Universal Gazetteer," 1840, mentions neither town as being a seat or part of a seat of government. Baldwin and Thomas, in the "Gazetteer of the United States," 1853, gives the state two capitals, *but only one at a time*, thus, "Capitals, Providence and Newport alternately." This was copied from Flint's statement of 1832. The same authors in their *Gazetteer of the World*, known as Lippincott's, 1855, continue the phrase, which means of course that Rhode Island had only one capital at any one time. Since that day these same gentlemen in their new edition (1880) of Lippincott's "Gazetteer," have abandoned the use of the word "alternately," and given the State two capitals, thus—"Providence one of the State capitals, and Newport the other State capital."

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One may now come safely to an opinion: It is, that if ever Rhode Island had two capitals, they were given to her not by her own act but by people outside. Legally, under the charter, Newport was the seat of government, and hence was the capital, and the only capital. The charter went out in 1842, and the seat of government was transferred gradually to Providence; here is the official residence of the Governor, and the offices of all the State officers; here are the State archives, and here all the State business is to-day transacted. Providence is the capital of Rhode Island, and Rhode Island has not two capitals.

Mrs. Elizabeth Buffum Chace, now in her 86th year, sends to the writer an elegantly printed pamphlet, entitled *Anti-slavery Reminiscences*. Mrs. Chace is a daughter of the late Arnold Buffum, who was among the first abolitionists of the Garrison kind who dwelt in Rhode Island. The whole family held the same faith and they were all Quakers, or Friends. Thus Mrs. Chace saw the beginning and ending of the antislavery movement. But that which gives a historical value to her Essay, and which does not appear in the histories of Rhode Island, is her account of the early development of antislavery principles among the Rhode Island Quakers. She shows that as early as 1727, the Yearly Meeting at Newport remonstrated against the importation of slaves, and again in 1760 advised their members "to keep their hands clean of this unrighteous gain of oppression." In 1773 the Yearly Meeting "recommended to Friends who have slaves in their possession to treat them with tenderness and impress God's fear in their minds;" and they further advised that the young, and the aged, and the impotent, be set free. But at last, in 1780, they came squarely to the issue, and "agreed that no Friend import, or anyways purchase, dispose of, or hold mankind as slaves; but that all those who have been held in a state of slavery be discharged therefrom; that all those be used well who are under Friends' care, and who are not in circumstances through nonage or incapacity to minister to their own necessities; and that they give to those who are young such an education as becomes Christians." Not a word of this appears in the histories of Rhode Island,—and yet it is of the utmost interest and importance. The people of Rhode Island led the world in planting soul liberty upon American soil, and here they are seen leading the world again in planting human liberty on that same soil which nourished so well the former principle. Henceforth, thanks to Mrs. Chace,

these facts will find their way into the Rhode Island Histories. Her story, told with directness, with dignity, and without affectation, is very excellent.

Selections from four private libraries in Providence have been placed in Mr. Rider's hands to be sold. The time to buy is when somebody wishes to sell. Among these books are some of the best which have been offered in Providence for many years,—not such as may be found in dry goods shops, nor in the ordinary book shops, but books of sterling worth, which, when you have done with them, somebody else will desire. Among them are Audubon's Birds and Quadrupeds; Bewick's Birds, 1804, a royal paper copy; John Leech's Pictures from Life; George Elliot's Spanish Gipsy—first edition; McKinney & Hall's American Indians—a subscriber's copy; Robertson's works—eight volumes quarto, Swan's Gesta Romanorum—Life of Colley Cibber—4th and best edition; Walton's complete Angler—Fac-simile reprint of first edition. The National Gallery, Imperial folio; Poems Ossian, with notes by Laing; Fielding's novels, 12 vols, 12 mo., 1824; The Pourtraicture of His Sacred Majestie (Charles 1st) in his solitudes and sufferings, Eikon Basilike, edition of 1649; Irving Works, 28 volumes, a large paper copy, of which but one hundred were printed; The British Essayists, with Drake's Essays, and illustrated with engravings from Fuseli, Stothard and others, engraved by Heath and Fittler and others. These and many more afford to the lover of good books delectation and delight.

There came to BOOK NOTES for review an excellently printed poetry book, by Orrin Cedestman Stevens, published at Holyoke, Mass., by the Griffith, Axtell & Cady Company. Confidentially, the editor of BOOK NOTES is about as competent to review a poetry book as the editor

of the *Journal* is to judge of a Land Plate Title to land. He has not the remotest conception whether a Hexameter line is regular or Spondiac, and as for Dactyles and Spondees, he couldn't tell one from the other, unless the editor of the *Journal* had labelled them. But there is one thing in this book concerning which the editor of BOOK NOTES has an opinion. It occurs in a poem entitled *Democracy*.

"Not on the crust of earth, Democracy,
Wert thou begotten."

Now that may be all right for poetry, but as a matter of fact here in Rhode Island, Democracy *was* begotten on this crust of earth, and still in its swaddling clothes is rolling about in the gutter. I cannot define poetry; I can only *feel* it when I see it; but somehow this book does not impress me.

That a radical change in the system of taxation followed here in Providence must be made there can be no question. Only let men understand the monstrous iniquity and a revolution will take place. Since the last BOOK NOTES, the homestead of the late Chief Justice William R. Staples, on Benefit street, has been sold under a mortgage. It was owned by the widow of the Chief Justice. It sold for \$4,050. It was taxed for \$10,520, thus divided—house \$4,500, land \$6,020. A corporation owning an estate on Westminster street receives an annual rent of \$15,000, *over all taxes*, equivalent to six per cent. on a quarter of a million *untaxed*. Is this fair to the widow of Judge Staples. The landlord corporation on Westminster street (and everywhere else) puts this tax, and with it the water tax, upon the tenant. the tenant puts it upon the buyer of his wares, and the buyer of his wares was *Evelina*, the widow of the Chief Justice. This widow, *overtaxed as she was*, was thus made to pay a portion, and other buyers or consumers the remaining portion of this tax. Now where is this landlord corporation taxed?

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., July 18, 1891.

The government of Rhode Island has sometimes been considered to be Republican in form. That must come from the fact that a Senator from the town of Exeter represents 964 people, while a Senator from Providence represents 132,000 people. Webster's Dictionary, in defining the government which is called "Republican," says it is one in which the sovereign power is exercised by the representatives of the people." Let him give that definition another consideration. The people elect "representatives" and they make constitutions, and these alone are acts of sovereign power. But as compared with Exeter, there are 131,036 people in Providence who are bereft of sovereign power. It is not the "representatives" of the people who are sovereign. It is the people themselves.

It is one of the anomalies of business credits, that a man who pays cash and has no debts, has no credit; while a man who gives notes and is overloaded with debt, and with not half property enough to pay it, is considered A No. 1. Among the failed firms here in Providence, those who have been given the highest ratings, have panned out the smallest percentages.

Broadway (a street in Providence) is a perfect sinking fund for the city. Just now it is undergoing its annual re-habilitation—\$15,000 this time, and it will last with careful usage about nine months. It would have been money in the pockets of the American people had they buried the State of Louisiana fifty fathoms deep beneath the Mississippi, instead of charging themselves with the "protective" tariff tax on sugar. Broadway, to the tax-payers of Providence, is very much in the same relation.

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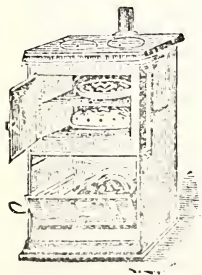
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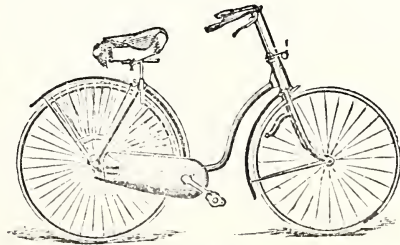
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BOOK NOTES

HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

CONDUCTED BY

SIDNEY S. RIDER,

No. 61 SNOW STREET, (Winthrop Building,) PROVIDENCE, R. I.

Entered as Second class Matter, at the Providence, R. I. Post Office.

Fifty cents per annum, }
Fortnightly.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 1891.

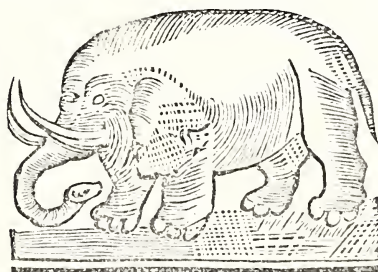
VOL. 8.
No. 16.

STREET SYMBOL SIGNS.

Taking advantage of the fact that the lady is now outside the jurisdiction of Rhode Island, and hence cannot pull the scattered hairs of the venerable editor of BOOK NOTES, allusion may be made to an elaborate collection of materials gathered for a history of the ancient Street Symbol Signs of Providence, by Mrs. Elizabeth H. Horton, wife of Mr. Henry A. Horton, now resident in California. Mrs. Horton sought long and faithfully, and then carried off her gatherings to amuse and instruct the Modocs, or other nomads of the plains. There is a curious quaintness in these old signs, even yet not quite extinct. The idea came to us from England, where it still exists. The *Striped Pole* of the barber and the *Mortar and Pestle* of the apothecary are still with us, as are the *Three Gilded Balls* of the pawn-broker; and here and there the emble of the *Indian Chief* guards the entrance to the shop of the tobacconist. The custom arose from the necessity of directing people to some particular locality on a street which was unnamed and unnumbered, and was doubtless an assistance in directing people who could not read to those particular localities. The custom of giving names and numbers to streets and buildings, assisted by the growth of newspapers, has made such a system no

longer a necessity. It is the purpose of BOOK NOTES to mention a few of these symbol signs; but were the lady mentioned above now here, she could doubtless tell us much more about them.

The earliest mention of such a sign of which I now know appears in the first number of the *Providence Gazette*, Oct. 20, 1762. Mr. James Greene advertised goods made in brass, steel, iron, pewter, &c., or "Braziery," as he styled them, and also woolen goods, rum, tea, and pretty much everything else, at the sign of the *Elephant*. A short time afterward Mr. Greene caused to be engraved a cut of his sign, which appeared regularly over his advertisement, thus:



At the same time, Mr. Samuel Carver mentions the fact that at the sign of the *Pestle and Mortar*, he keeps goods "*Chymical and Galenical*." There were Turlington's Balsam of Life, Stoughton's Elixir,

Daffey's Elixir Salutis, Plummer's Æthiops, &c., which were, we presume, goods "galenical," while the preparations made from Salt Petre, Borax, Potash, Copperas, &c., were, we presume, goods "chymical."

A word of explanation seems here necessary. "Galenical" preparations are not now known to the profession, much less to laymen. In the 17th and 18th centuries the term had a well understood meaning, or at all events people supposed that it had. Pharmacy was separated into two divisions, Galenical and Chemical. The Galenical form consisted in changing the forms of simples without changing their qualities; so mixing them in various compositions as that each simple was believed to retain its original properties. The name came of course from Galen, who was the founder of the empirical pathology, a system now only known in history, but in those days in active use. Chemistry came into use, and practitioners divided themselves into two schools, one the Chemists, claiming for their art everything, the other the Galenists, adhering with dogged pertinacity to the dogmas of the ancient schools. In those old days the "Empirical" system was maintained by the utmost power of the medical profession. "Empiric" comes from a Greek word meaning Experienced, or Experimental, and hence its application. Now the profession apply it only to Quacks, those who have only such medical knowledge as experience gives them. The use of the word "Galenical" in this connection passed out of use at the great centres of medical learning before 1750, but in the benighted lands of New England it still prevailed.

In the order of time, and all in the same year, (1762) came Joseph and William Russell, with the sign of the *Golden Eagle*, where these gentlemen offered for sale "European and India Goods."

Contemporaneous with these gentlemen

was Mr. Knight Dexter, who desired to sell Broad Cloths, German Serges, Camblets, Sagathies, Allopeens, Callimancoes, and a great many other things, the names of which, like those now quoted, convey no meaning to my mind. But Mr. Dexter had also Pewter dishes, Warming-pans, Tankards, Candlesticks, Hand-irons, &c., to be sold at the sign of the *Boy and Book*, "for cash either *old Tenor*, or the *Lawful money* of this Colony at Twenty-three and one-third for one." "Old Tenor" was of course the irredeemable paper bills issued before that time by the colony. The terrible depreciation of such *fiat money* is well illustrated by Mr. Dexter's advertisement. This rate was however made by the General Assembly, which body had just then enacted that £7 "old Tenor" should be equal to one Spanish milled dollar, which was exactly the rate at which Mr. Dexter offered to take it. Another illustration occurs to me from an account of Nicholas and John Brown against Job Smith: "For 6½ yard-kersey for Grait Coat, £72," which would be in dollars, \$240, or in silver, \$10.28.

The fondness which the people of that time had for using "big" words is illustrated in an advertisement by Mr. Samuel Chace of a quantity of "callavance," a commodity which I should have been at a loss to understand had not Mr. Chace followed with the words, "or beans."

At the sign of the *Lion*, Thomas Pelham has the best Cut, Pigtail and Roll Tobacco.

Mrs. Abijah Hunt announces the fact that at the sign of the *Blue Ball*, (Black Ball would have been more appropriate,) a Likely Negro wench, about 23 years of age, who understands all kinds of housework, and is to be sold for no fault. This was in 1763.

About this time horses found a good market at Surinam, and two firms were engaged in exporting them. One of these firms, Nicholas Brown & Company, had engraved and printed in the *Gazette* this picture of the horse they wanted:



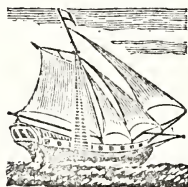
Early in the publication of the *Gazette*, Mr. Goddard announced that his office was near the *Golden Eagle*, which was the sign of Joseph and William Russell, but on July 9, 1763, announced that his sign was "Shakespeare's Head," and that he had removed to the store of Judge Jenckes, near the Great Bridge, which is, I believe, where the People's Savings Bank now is. This sign was subsequently and for many years used by Mr. John Carter, who published books, as well as the *Gazette*; but Mr. Carter was then on Meeting street.

The first shop across the Bridge from Mr. Goddard's was that of Samuel Butler & Sons. The sons were William and Cyrus. From William came a daughter who married Alexander Duncan, and through whom the income of their lands, now become by the influx of population vast in amount, goes to Scotch people. The significant sign of these Butlers was a *Gold Padlock*.

There were several signs for workers in leather which were more or less suggestive of the kinds of work done by their owners. Mr. Levi Hall, at the sign of the *Buck*, made Leather Breeches. After his death Mrs. Hall continued the business. A *Saddle* painted on a swinging sign, and a white *Lamb* on a pedestal indicated other lines; a big *Book* on Westminster street needs no suggestion, but a *Rein-*

deer, couchant, with the announcement that "carbercater" skins will be carefully tanned, needs some explanation which I cannot give.

In 1767 Thomas and Benjamin Lindsay beg to inform the public that they have three very compleat *Stage Boats* for the carriage of passengers from Providence to Newport. For the convenience of passengers, the *Stage Boats* will be supplied with provisions, and liquors of all kinds, and passengers will be treated in the most genteel manner. The *Stage Boats* will leave Arnold's wharf, just below the sign of the *Buck*. Here is the picture of a "Stage Boat."



Mr. Nathanael Wheaton announced himself in William street, at the sign of the *Greyhound*, with "an assortment of English and India goods of almost every kind." Subsequently he was at the sign of the *Greyhound* between the Baptist Meeting and the Church,—which means North Main street, between the First Baptist Meeting House and St. John's Church. He engraved the *Greyhound*, and here it is:



The *Bunch of Grapes*, but whether the one which is now suspended in front of a Dry Goods shop, was first used in 1773, by Thurber & Cahoon, who at the "North-end" sold brass kettles, pewter platters, Taylor & Brothers' 6 by 8 and 7 by 9 window glass. New England rum, West's almanacks, and nearly everything else in use by the people of the time. Subsequently it was used by Benjamin Thurber, in the same line, but down on Cheapside, near where the Gladdings subsequently used it. It now (1891) hangs on Westmister street, having seen a service of at least 118 years.

Among the later signs was *Celsus's Head*, used by Thomas A. Larned, a Druggist, as we now style them, in 1789; the *Negro Boy*, in 1788, and the *Negro Boy in chains*, now in the possession of the Historical Society, which was said to have been used over the door of the jail at East Greenwich. At a much later period, say 1812, the *Bunch of Grapes* had migrated to Cheapside, been painted purple, and hung at the door of a Dry Goods shop. An *Owl* had been placed over the door of a Doctor's office, and a *Lion pounding a mortar* stood at the side of a Druggist's door. Jeremiah Fones Jenkins opened in 1786 a shop for selling Beaver coatings, Ratteeras, black Sergedenim, Lady's Beauforts. Henry the 8th Playing Cards, and all the other necessities of life; his sign was the *Arm and Bee Hive*. About this same time Metcalf Bowler opened a Coffee-room at the sign of the *Queen's Head*. A carved wooden statue of General Washington stood on the bridge at India Point, and a *Rhinoceros* suspended by a band over a Tobacco shop on Weybosset street.

The celebrated Turk's Head, which gave the name to a locality still well known, I have left until the last. It was first set up *under this name*, as I now believe, in March, 1791; at all events, it was first then so announced by Jacob Whitman, Jr. Whether it was the same or a

different figure from that used by Smith & Sabin in December, 1763, and called the *Sultan's Head*, near the Great Bridge, I do not know. The Turk's Head was blown down in the September Gale of 1815 and drifted into the Cove, was recovered and reposed for some years in a cellar on Christian Hill, and at last was taken South, and is now lost to sight, while yet to memory dear. About this time Mr. Whitman advertised a new Moses boat, 15 feet long, for sale. What it was I do not know. A friend suggests, that in those years men who lived back in the woods made during the winter boats for ships' uses and in the spring and summer hauled them into the town to be sold, and that a Moses-boat may have been a boat built by a man named Moses, who had a reputation for good work. Possibly this may be the true explanation. In the ways of doing things in those by-gone days, this advertisement reads curiously: Isaac Greenwood, Dentist, next door to Mr. Jacob Whitman's, "wants *two live front teeth*, for which three guineas will be paid." He proposed to transplant them.

Light, published at Worcester, under the editorial charge of Alfred S. Roe, is an acute, bright paper. It mentions the BOOK NOTES' article in its last issue on Rhode Island's two State capitals. *Light* closes its article thus: "Still, as there is a capitol building in Newport, and as the governor is proclaimed there, and the votes counted there, it does seem as though Rhode Island capital business were still somewhat double headed." There is a capitol building at Bristol, another at East Greenwich, and still another at Kingston; but, as a plain matter of fact, Rhode Island has only one capital.

Mr. Rider desires to call attention to a small but excellent collection of *Line Engravings* of the highest class, and to a number of *Etchings*, which have been placed in his hands for sale. What they lack in number is abundantly made up in quality, which is modestly set forth in the last column of BOOK NOTES.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., August 1, 1891.

Caroline C. Leighton wrote a little while since an admirable little book about her "*Life at Puget's Sound.*" It almost tempted a fellow to leave New England and enter into this charming paradise. Just now this same lady has written another little book, "*Intimations of Eternal Life.*" Somehow it didn't have the same effect upon me as did the former book; that is, I didn't want to leave New England and enter into the Eternal life; but nevertheless it has given me a vast deal of pleasure. She says in effect that having been twenty years away from schools and churches and libraries, she returned among them and found a doubtful questioning spirit pervading them, and so she began looking about to find whereon it rested, and to discover how she herself stood concerning it. She has

traversed the whole range of writers, both ancient and modern, gathering here a little and there a little, and weaving the whole into a dozen or more well compacted chapters. Let us look the problem squarely in the face. Don't waste your time in trying to unravel the origin of things; you can't do it, and so don't try. You get back to matter, or a cell, or to protoplasm, and what have you accomplished? Who made matter, or the cell, or protoplasm? In spite of all the discoveries, actual or alleged, of so-called scientists, I believe that what people call "religion" rests upon much stronger bases of truth than ever before. There are thousands of people whose belief in the Divinity or in God is, like my own, much more rational and much stronger by reason of those things—and Caroline C. Leighton is one of them. Lee & Shepard are her publishers. Read her little book; it will uphold him who is falling, and strengthen the feeble knees.

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- SIMMS, W. Gilmore. Helen Halsey. New York. 1845. 75c
- TRENCK, Baron. Life and Adventures, trans. by T. Holcroft. Lond. 1835. \$2.00
- CLAY, H. Life and Speeches, 2 v. Greeley and McElrath. N. Y. 1843. \$2.50
- CLAY, H. Life and Times, by C. Colton. 2 vols. New York. 1846. \$2.50
- WHITEFIELD, George. Memoirs, with Sermons and other writings, by J. Gillies. Portraits. New Haven. 1834. \$1.50
- GRISWOLD, Alexander V., Bishop. Memoir, by J. S. Stone. Phila. 1844. \$1.00
- GOUGH, John. Autobiography. Springfield. 1870. \$1.00
- LEIBNITZ, G. W. von. Life, by J. M. Mackie. (Autograph of author.) Boston. 1845. \$1.00
- SWEDENBORG. Life and account of his Writings, by B. F. Barrett. New York. 1841. 50c
- FRENCH (The) Convert, being a true relation of the happy conversion of a noble French lady from the Errors and Superstitions of Popery, by means of a Protestant Gardener, her servant, [by A. D'Aubon.] New York. 1830. \$1.25
- TRUMBULL, J. M'Fingal, a modern Epic Poem, with explanatory notes. Boston. 1799. \$1.00
- ARTICLES (The) of Faith of the Holy Evangelical Church and Augsburg Confession, set forth in forty Sermons by Magist. Petrus Sacharie Naskow, translated by Jochum Melchoir Magens, Minister of the Gospel in the old Lutheran Church in New York and Hackensack. Quarto. New York. 1755. \$4.50
- STILLING, Heinrich. Autobiography of. New York. 1844. \$1.25
- BALLOU, Hosea. Defence of Divine Revelation in reply to Abner Kneeland. Boston. 1820. 75c
- CONSTITUTION (The) of the Reformed Dutch church in the United States. New York. 1793. [This book contains the Rules of church Government established by the Synod at Dordrecht in 1618.] \$1.25
- HOLTHAUS, P. D. Wanderings of a Journeyman Tailor in Europe, 1824-1840, trans. by W. Howitt. Lond. 1844. \$1.50

- ANSON, Lord George, Admiral. Life, by Sir J. Barrow. London. 1839. \$2.00
- HOWE, Richard, Earl, Admiral of the Fleet. Life, by Sir J. Barrow. London. 1838. \$2.00
- [The most interesting thing in this book is Franklin's narrative of a political trap set for him by Lord Howe.]
- MUNDAY, Major General. Life of Admiral Rodney. 2 vol. Lond. 1830. \$3.50
- BRENTON, Edward Pelham. Life of John, Earl of St. Vincent, Admiral of the Fleet. 2 v. London. 1838. 65 50
- This author was of Rhode Island birth; his people fled from Newport at the beginning of the Revolution.
- PHILLIPS, Wendell. Speeches and Addresses. Boston. 1863. \$2.25
- SCHILLER, F. Life, with an examination of his works by T. Carlyle. 1845. \$1.50
- MARCH, C. W. Reminiscences of Congress. N. York. 1850. [The most graphic account of the Webster and Haynes debate ever written.] \$1.25
- CHOATE, Rufus. Life by S. G. Brown. Boston. 1879. \$1.50
- SUMNER, Charles. Orations and Speeches. 2 vols. Boston. 1850. \$2.00
- DWIGHT, T. Travels in New England and New York. 4 v. New Haven. 1821. \$5.00
- SECUNDUS, Johannes. Basia. The Portal to the abinet of Love. [Scarce and nasty.] Weathersfield, Vt. 1815. \$2.00
- LINCOLN, Abraham. Life and Services, by D. W. Bartlett. N. Y. 1860. \$1.25

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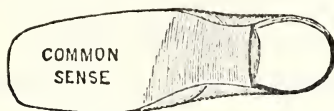
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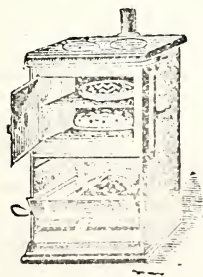
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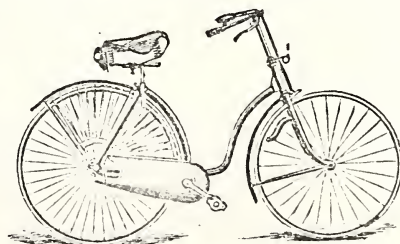
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| Admiralty Laws and Institutions, 1746, 2 vols. | 1.50 |
| Ward's Law of Nations in Europe, | 1.50 |
| Doctor and Student, Dialogues, 1792, | 1.50 |
| Coke upon Littleton, Folio, | 2.50 |
| Jacob's Law Dictionary, Folio, | 1.75 |
| Burrows' Reports—Lord Mansfield, 5 vols. | 5.00 |
| Vattel's Law of Nations, | 1.50 |
| Cruise's Digest Real Property, 3 v. | 5.00 |
| Precedents of Declarations, | .75 |
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| Douglas's Reports, | 1.00 |
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| Collyer on Partnership, | .75 |
| Daniel's Chancery Practice, 3 v. | 5.00 |
| Segdwick's Constitutional Law, | 2.00 |
| Flanders on Maritime Law, | .50 |
| Hammond on Parties to Actions. | .25 |
| Montesquieu's Spirit of Laws, 2 v. | 1.50 |
| Selwyn's Nisi Prius, 3 v. | 1.00 |
| Durnford & East's Reports, 8 v. | 6.00 |
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| Dunlap's Admiralty Practice, | .50 |
| Hoffman's Chancery Practice, 2 v. | .75 |
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| Finlayson's Leading Cases in Pleading, | .75 |
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| Curtis on Parents, | 1.50 |
| Kinne's Law Questions, | .50 |
| Hammond's Law of Nisi Prius, | .35 |
| Livermore on Law of Agents, 2 v. | .55 |
| Marshall on Insurance, | .40 |
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| Story's Equity Pleadings, | .50 |
| Hilliard on Real Property, 2 v. | 1.25 |
| Hilliard on Mortgages, 2 v. | 1.25 |

A couple of Portfolios of very choice line engravings, and with them a collection of Etchings, have been sent to Mr. Sidney S. Rider, 61 Snow street, to be sold. Among the engravings are a few in the highest style of the Engraver's art, by the best masters. The fine engraving by Raphael Morghen of *Diana and her Nymphs*, from a painting by Domenichino, is among them, bearing this couplet from Horace:

"Deliae tutela deae fugaces
Lyneas et cervos cohibentis arcu."

There is also Bervic's magnificent engraving from Guido's picture, *L'Enlèvement de Djanire*, which bears the date, Le XV Prairial an X (June 7, 1802.) The *Mort de Cleopatre*, engraved by J. G. Wille from the painting by Netscher; *Le Retour on Haman*, engraved by F. Godefroy, from the picture by Berghem; a fine proof by Martinez, from a picture by Gallait; *Neptune et Amphitrite*, engraved by Richomme (1818) from a picture by Romaine; *L'Aurore et Cephale*, engraved by Forster (1921); the *Rape of Syringa*, a magnificent engraving by Longhi, of which there is also a proof in India paper; *La Tentation*, engraved by Jos Bal from a painting by Gallait; a fine engraving by Barth from a picture by Overbeck. There is also a collection of etchings; among them appears the names of Rembrandt, John Burnet, De Boissieux, Bartolozzi and many others; these are all good names, and the engravings are capable of satisfying the most exacting taste in such matters.

| | |
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| James' Household Medicine, | \$1.25 |
| Darby's Science of Healing, | 1.00 |
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| Wilson—Cutaneous Medicine and Skin Disease, | 1.50 |
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BOOK NOTES

HISTORICAL, LITERARY AND CRITICAL.

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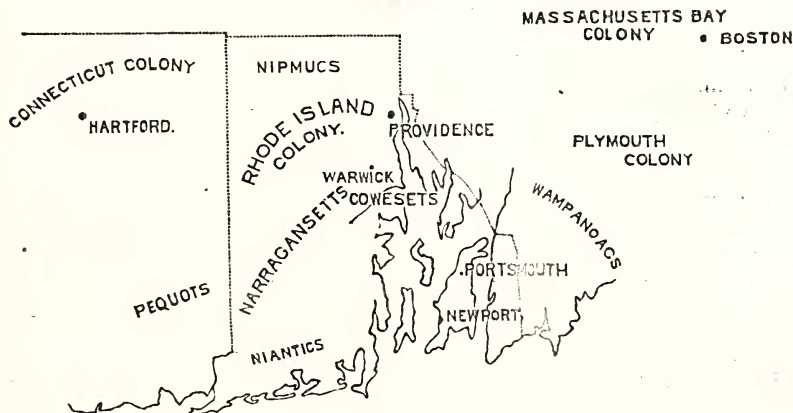
SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 1891.

VOL. 8.
No 17.

THE POLITICAL RESULTS OF THE BANISHMENT OF WILLIAMS.

The political results of the banishment of Williams by Massachusetts have never been set forth by Rhode Island historical writers at all in their real light. This banishment, while it was done on wholly religious grounds, resulted in political consequences of the greatest moment, not

only to the colony which banished him but also to all the other New England colonies. Being thrust out of them into the wilderness, he was by his address and courage enabled within a year to save them from destruction at the hands of the New England Indians; but for him those colonies would have been annihilated. This then is my first point. Let me endeavor to maintain it:



The little sketch map which is here introduced shows at a glance the geographical positions of the chief centres of the first colonies, thus.—Plymouth, Boston, Hartford, Providence, and a few other towns are presented, and there is also presented the general outlines of the territories occupied by the chief tribes then dwelling in these colonial lands. Thus there is given the Pequots, the Niantics,

the Narragansetts, the Nipmucs, the Cowesets, and the Wampanoags, and there should have been presented the Mohegans, a tribe which dwelt in Connecticut, north of the Pequots, in the valley of the Quinebaug, while the Pequots tribe dwelt in the valley of the Thames.

The Pequots were, in 1636, one of the most powerful and warlike tribes. Next to it, but far stronger numerically, and

far richer in all that constituted Indian wealth, came the Narragansetts. This tribe could muster 5,000 fighting men, and governed as tributaries the Niantics, the Nipmucs, and the Cowesets.

Williams was banished in 1636 and settled at Providence. The Pequot war took place the next year following. The Pequots were a powerful tribe of Indians, dwelling as before stated in the valley of the Thames at the easterly end of Connecticut, and holding the lands west to the river of that name. The parties to this war were, the Massachusetts, Plymouth, and Connecticut colonies, assisted by the Narragansett and Mohegan tribes of Indians on one side, against the Pequots, single-handed, on the other. The Pequots undertook to make an alliance with the Narragansetts and the Mohegans (Hubbard's *Indian Wars*, 1677, p. 118), and but for Williams would have succeeded, (Narr. Club, v. 6, p. 269.) Williams had obtained a powerful influence over Canonicus and Miantinomi, the great Sachems of the Narragansetts, (Narr. Club, v. 6, p. 17,) and Massachusetts having just banished him, sent at once to him to prevent if possible this alliance, (Narr. Club, v. 6, p. 269.) By his influence a treaty of alliance was made with Miantinomi, Williams being employed by both sides as a friend, the treaty was deposited with him and he was made interpreter by Massachusetts for the Indians upon their motion, (Winthrop's *Hist. N. E.*, 1853, v. 1, p. 237). The Narragansetts, the Mohegans, the Niantics, the Nipmucs, and the Cowesets, were by this treaty either neutrals or fought actively for the English in the war. Hubbard, a clergyman of the dominant party in Massachusetts, who had lived through both the Pequot war of 1637 and through Philip's war of 1676, has written concerning these matters: "The Pequot war in the day of it, here in New England, was as formidable to the country in general as the present (1676) war with Philip"—(*Indian*

Wars, 1677, p. 131.) It took an alliance of all the colonies, with all the Indian tribes, to overthrow a single tribe. How would it have been had all the tribes allied themselves to overthrow the English? Let the Massachusetts historians tell us. Hutchinson says, "If the Indians would unite they might easily destroy the English, or force them to leave the country without being exposed themselves to any hazard; they need not come to open battles; but by firing their houses, killing their cattle, and lying in wait for them as they went about their ordinary business." (*Hist. Mass.* v. 1, 1795, p. 60) This question of an alliance was indeed fearful in suspense. Drake has said of it, "The scale of peace or war thus fearfully balancing and trembling as here represented (by Hubbard) is true to the letter, but it is also now known to be equally true that Roger Williams prevented the alliance between the Pequots and Narragansetts, this may not have been known to Hubbard, but it was well known to Winthrop, who was one of Hubbard's chief authorities."—(Drake's ed. of Hubbard, 1865, v. 2, p. 17.) Mr. Palfrey still further strengthens my case. He says, "Sassacus (the Pequot chief) made the most vigorous endeavors to engage the Narragansetts in an alliance for exterminating the English; there was great probability that he would succeed. Had he been able to conciliate the Narragansetts, and to enlist or overawe the Mohegans, there was no power in the colonists to make head against him, and the days of civilized New England would have been numbered and finished near the beginning. The ancient hostility of the Narragansetts to their savage rivals prevailed, enforced by the diplomacy of Roger Williams, who at the hazard of his life visited their settlements to counteract the solicitations with which they were addressed. Determined by his influence, some of the Narragansett chiefs came to Boston in the autumn (1636) and concluded a treaty of peace and alliance

with the colonists."—(Palfrey's Hist. N. E. v. 1, 1858, p. 460.) Let me come with one more authority. Mr. Francis Baylies, than whom no man stands higher. He says, "At the commencement of the difficulties with the Pequots, the services of Williams were inestimable. By his personal influence with the Narragansetts, he prevented them from joining the Pequots. In the management of this dangerous business he discovered uncommon address and the most intrepid courage. When the Narragansetts were strongly suspected of being inclined to hostilities, he repaired to their quarters and found them undecided; the Pequot ambassadors urged them to put him to death, and thus provoke the war; but undismayed by the perils which surrounded him, he persisted at the hazard of his life in persuading the Narragansetts to the English alliance and finally succeeded. The junction of the Pequots and the Narragansetts would probably have terminated in the destruction of all the English settlements and the extermination of the English race, and this great service did he perform for Massachusetts and Plymouth, immediately after he had been banished from the jurisdictions of one and denied a resting place in the other."—(Baylies' Memoir of Plymouth, v. 1, p. 271.) There stands my first point, established wholly on Massachusetts authorities, and resting on foundations so strong that I believe it impossible to be shaken. But let me reinforce it by what Williams has himself said upon the matter. Twice he has written. The first time, in 1654, to the Massachusetts General Court, thus—'I remember that in the Pequot war it pleased your honored government to employ me in the hazardous and weighty service of negotiating a league between yourselves and the Narragansetts, when the Pequot messengers, who sought the Narragansetts' league (alliance) against the English, had almost ended that my work and life together; that at the subscribing of that solemn

league, which by the mercy of the Lord I had procured with the Narragansetts, your government was pleased to send unto me the copy of it subscribed by all hands there, which yet I keep as a monument."—(Narr. Club, v. 6, p. 269.) Once more, in his famous letter to Major Mason, he spoke of the case, thus—"I had my service to the whole land in that Pequot business inferior to very few that acted. Upon letters received from the Governor and Council at Boston (by whom he had just been banished) requesting me to use my utmost and speediest endeavors to break and hinder the league labored for by the Pequods against the Mohegans, and Pequods against the English, (excusing the not sending of company and supplies by the haste of the business,) the Lord helped me immediately to put my life into my hand, and, scarce acquainting my wife, to ship myself all alone in a poor canoe, and to cut through a stormy wind with great seas, every minute in hazard of life, to the Sachem's house. Three days and nights my business forced me to lodge and mix with the bloody Pequot ambassadors, whose hands and arms methought wreaked with the blood of my countrymen, murdered and massacred by them on the Connecticut, and from whom I could not but nightly look for their bloody knives at my own throat also. God wondrously preserved me and helped me to break to pieces the Pequods' negotiation and design, and to make, promote and finish the English league (alliance) with the Narragansetts and the Mohegans."—(Narr. Club, v. 6, p. 338.)

In the light of such a history what must be thought of the historical integrity of the clergyman Hubbard, who with Williams's letter to the General Court before him for twenty years, declines to mention Williams's name in connection with these affairs; and so too with Hutchinson, who wrote a century later. The handling of facts in such a manner makes a lie of history. Another point which I do not find

credited to Williams was the devising of the military plan of attack on the Pequots. This plan appears in a letter to Gov. Winthrop (Nar. Club v. 6, p. 19.) a rude map of the positions of the enemy is given, and a minute account of the forces of the enemy. After gathering all the information possible from the Indians, Williams devised this plan, which was followed with such signal success. For this the credit has been given wholly to others—it all belongs to Williams.

My second point is, that Williams having at the outset preserved the New England colonies from annihilation, continued for many years, to wit, forty, to exercise that restraining influence which he had happily obtained over the powerful Narragansett Sachems, to the end that that tribe was kept from leagues or wars against the English, until such time as that the English were strong enough to withstand the united efforts of all the tribes. This came in Philip's war, 1676. Concerning this point all writers are silent. Such authorities cannot therefore be cited; but the point can be established by showing what Williams did, and keeping in view the general course of New England history. Mr. Williams on this point says: "Since that time (the time of the Pequot war, 1637,) it hath pleased the Lord so to order it, that I have been more or less interested and used in all your great transactions of war or peace between the English and the natives, and have spared purse nor pains, nor hazards, very many times, that the whole land, English and natives, might sleep in peace securely."—(Nar. Club, v. 6, p. 270.) After the extinction of the Pequot tribe, "the two great bodies of Indians in this country were the Narragansetts and the Mohawks, (the latter dwelling in the valley of the Hudson.) They were confederates, and long had been. and they were yet (1654) both friendly and peaceable to the English. I do humbly conceive, that if ever God calls us to a just war with either

of them, he calls us to make sure of *one* as a friend."—(Nar. Club, v. 6, p. 274.) This was the key to his diplomacy; but besides this, he tempered all his acts towards the Indians with justice. He pacified them when they were angry; he righted their wrongs, or redressed them; he explained things which they could not understand, and which others could not explain, and in this way gained a great ascendancy over them. An instance is related by Bradford (Hist. of Plymouth, 1856, p. 364). One Peach, belonging at Plymouth, murdered a Narragansett near Pawtucket and robbed him of all that he had. "The Indians sent for Mr. Williams and made a grievous complaint; his (the wounded Indian's) friends and kindred were ready to war, and provoke the rest thereto, * * but Mr. Williams pacified them and told them they should see justice done upon ye offenders." He caused Peach to be captured, sent to Plymouth, where he was tried, convicted, and hanged.

In 1638 the Connecticut colony sent a demand to Miantinomi to make a treaty with them. Williams held that all the New England colonies were bound by the alliance negotiated by him the preceding year, but nevertheless persuaded Miantinomi to go to Hartford and make the treaty, and himself went with him, (p. 115). At a later period, Massachusetts made new demands on the Narragansetts; the Indians came to Williams for advice; he quieted them, and then wrote to Massachusetts, "I see the business is ravelled and needs a patient and gentle hand to rectify misunderstandings." The outcome was peace, (p. 130). "This week (August, 1639,) I went to Narragansett about other business. There I found a bar, which I thought good to request your worship to remove by a word or two," (p. 136). "The Narragansetts and Mohawks with their respective confederates have deeply implunged themselves in barbarous slaughters; for myself I have, to

my utmost, dissuaded our neighbors high and low from arms," (p. 145). The pages here specified refer to the 6th volume of the Narragansett Club publications, which consists of the *Letters of Williams*. These specimens, while few in number, illustrate the kind of work which Williams was accomplishing for the English colonies; and they are only specimens, but the volume is filled with such things, which to enumerate would only encumber BOOK NOTES. The result of it all was, that Indian wars were averted until Philip's war in 1676, at which time the English were strong enough to resist. This result was the work wholly of Williams, there being no other man in either colony at all adequate to it. The great works which Williams accomplished were first, the planting of a State based upon the idea, then new, of absolute religious freedom. Second, the preservation of this State from destruction, from enemies without and over-zealous or ignorant people within. This, in consideration of the materials and the state of society, required on his part not only incessant labor but consummate wisdom. Williams was equal to the occasion. Third, and last, his skill and diplomatic ability in handling the

barbarian Sachems, to the end that the feeble English settlements might not only be saved from annihilation but might survive and thrive, was a work the benefits of which to mankind is illimitable, and for which men have thus far forgotten to render thanks to his name.

The midsummer number of *Saint Nicholas* comes out as elastic and bright as ever, in spite of the fact that it approaches its nineteenth birth-day. It has a little bit of an article on the Torpedo Station at Newport, which is illustrated. The other day I saw at a bird-shop a card advertising "a pair of Bobolinks, \$1.00." This struck me curiously as I had just read the tale of the "Merry Outlaw," to wit, the Bobolink, a bird which causes an annual loss to the rice growers of the South of two millions of dollars. Mr. Stoffel says, "to prevent total destruction of the crop during these invasions, thousands of men and boys, called 'bird-minders,' are employed by the rice planters; hundreds thousands of pounds of gunpowder are burned, and millions of birds killed," while here in Providence the shopkeepers are charging 50 cents a bird for them.

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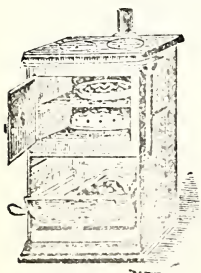
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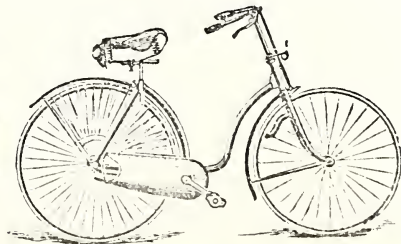


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Vol. 8.
No. 18.

It seems incredible that any town in Rhode Island should willingly permit the supply of one of the necessities of life to be at the will, or caprice, or profit, of one of its inhabitants; to be supplied to the other inhabitants at such price as the first individual sees fit to exact; the party of the second part cannot do without it, and it has decreed that the party of the first part shall have the exclusive right to supply them, and upon his own terms. This I say is incredible; yet it is what Newport has allowed to be done with its water, as necessary to its people as air. It is many years ago that I was sitting one evening in his office, with Mr. George W. Danielson, my friend, and then the editor of the *Providence Journal*. A stranger to me came in and held an animated and audible conversation with Danielson. The stranger was jubilant over a franchise which he had just obtained. It was Mr. George H. Norman, and the franchise was the right to control the water necessary to the people of Newport. He soon left, and as he went out, Danielson, without looking up from his work, said to me, "Those Newport people will weep tears of blood before they have done with that;" and that is about what it has now come to. The Newport Water Works, if what is said of it is true, is a vampire to the people of Newport. At last the people seem to be uneasy; a pamphlet has been

issued (the *public* newspapers closing their columns to the public) which sets forth in a vigorous way the enormous evils in the case. Mr. X. Y. Z., whom to me is unknown, says these Newport Water Works charge a family for one bath-tub, two water-closets, one wash-stand, and nine other faucets, \$52 per year. It costs the writer hereof in Providence, for one bath-tub, two water-closets, two set bowls, three set washing-tubs, two garden faucets, and other, in all seventeen faucets, \$10. Landlords charge the water tax to their tenants, but for the tenants, who are usually not wealthy, there is no escape, save leaving the town. The relief of a corporation from taxation, as this one is, is a travesty upon justice; it is worse than a travesty; it is an abominable outrage. Even if I admit that it comes within the grants of the constitution, (which I do not,) it is then to carry equities, which are utterly disregarded in this case. The remedy lies in the hands of the people. Have they no spirit? They should not have at first allowed it; but having allowed it, are they to be forever bound by it? Having carried Mr. Norman bare-backed to Bristol, are they to carry him on to Boston, and so on forever?

The Salem Press Publishing Company, have just published the second series of Mr. John J. Babson's *Notes and Additions*

to the *History of Gloucester, Mass.*, a stout pamphlet of nearly 200 pages. It is largely made up of the early records of the first church in that town. Mr. Chandler, the fourth pastor of this church, kept a journal during the middle of the 18th century which is reproduced, with much other local historical matter. There is a great deal in this book of curious interest. Here is a specimen, under the date, 1644: "William Stevens was chosen deputy to the General Court, but upon some private differences between him and the church, the freemen made choice of Mr. Brown in his room." Having fairly elected Stevens, the church interferes, cancels his election and causes Brown to be elected. It was that mixture of politics with religion which stands out so clearly in the case of Roger Williams. But the General Court sent back Brown and seated Stevens, and notified the church that such complaints as it saw fit to make could be made to the General Court, which body would deal with Stevens if "unfit for the service."

About this same time, 1649, Mr. Blyman, a former clergyman at Gloucester, made complaint to the quarterly session of the General Court, that Christopher Avery "had spoken scoffingly about what he (Blyman) had formerly delivered in the way of his ministry." The constable made return that Avery had gone to live at Boston. This remove took Avery out of the Plymouth Colony into the Massachusetts Colony; but the General Court followed Avery to Boston with an order to appear. BOOK NOTES cites this case for a certain purpose, to wit.: When Samuel Gorton removed from Boston to Plymouth, this removal his enemies, the Massachusetts historians, have all and always declared was to escape prosecution for a debt which he owed to somebody in London. How does that charge tally with this Avery case? If the jurisdiction of the General Court was adequate in the Avery case, why was it

not equal to the Gorton case, and how could Gorton escape by running from Boston to Plymouth? This question destroys this historical calumny instantly.

The July number of the *Magazine of New England History* has appeared. Among its papers is one on some Indian names of places on Long Island. Mr. R. G. Huling contributes extracts from the Letter Book of Samuel Hubbard. Mr. Hubbard was an Englishman who came into New England in 1633 (he was born in 1610) and into Rhode Island 1648, and died there about 1688. Mr. Huling says Mr. Hubbard "was one of the few Rhode Island pioneers (hardly a pioneer) who kept a diary and a letter book; the manuscripts which he left covered, *it is said*, the period from 1541 to 1688, and were rich in interesting details of life in that (Rhode Island) community." Mr. Hubbard was "probably a small farmer and a carpenter." Mr. Tilley's magazine deserves the patronage of every Rhode Islander.

The Salem Press Historical and Genealogical Record, a quarterly periodical published at Salem, enters upon its second year with the July number. This is one of that class of periodicals which great numbers of people wish to use some day or other, and but few people wish to pay for, hence a limited circulation. Of its class there is no better. The value of the early records of towns in historical and genealogical research is known to everybody who has ever used them; but the expense of publication deters towns from publishing. This periodical offers its pages free of expense to such towns as will avail themselves of this useful scheme. Nothing in the proposition excludes Rhode Island towns from taking advantage of it. The only condition is that the records must be such as have not before been printed. This proposition should be accepted, and the Salem Press Record should be given encouragement

It was a happy conceit of the Scottish citizens of Providence the placing of a statue of Burns in Roger Williams Park. A monument association has been formed here, in which not only the Scottish citizens of Providence but of the entire State are included, and also certain other gentlemen well known in political, financial, and other circles. An exceedingly chaste and beautiful design has been selected,



which is here reproduced, and the work of raising the necessary funds has been entered upon. A note addressed to Mr. Alfred Dawson, the secretary of the association, care of the Merchants National Bank, will elicit any desired information. In 1859 a number of Scottish gentlemen in Providence organized a Burns club, with a view of annually showing their appreciation of the genius of the poet by celebrating his birth-day with a supper. Thomas W. Camm was a leading spirit in it. Mr. Camm occasionally dabbled in verse in the Scottish dialect. Here is one from a poem composed and read by him at the first meeting of the Burns club:

Tho' far frae the shores o' our ain native land,
 Once a year wi' will a' meet thegither,
 And sing o' the man wi' the strong ploughman hand
 Who now sleeps neath his ain native heather.

The Burns club came to stay with us but a little while, but this beautiful statue

when it comes, will stay, and stay forever. BOOK NOTES gives heartily its best wishes, which, like the widow's mite, is small, but the best that it has.

A second series of *Speeches, Letters and Lectures*, by Wendell Phillips, has just been published by Lee & Shepard. Twenty-eight years have elapsed since the publication by the same firm of the first series of Mr. Phillips's *Speeches*. As an orator Mr. Phillips stands in the first rank. In the same rank stood Webster, and Choate, and Beecher. Each had his peculiar gifts in which the others were not his equal, and just so it was with Mr. Phillips. In his peculiar line no man of his time was his equal. He spoke for reform, and in such a cause it became necessary sometimes to blister with his tongue the wrongs upon which he invoked destruction. I know of no measure of the force of his oratory save that that for which he pleaded has been accomplished. Mr. Wirt, you will remember, in his sketch of the Blind Preacher, tells of the force of oratory; so, too, Warren Hastings has left us his own account of the terrific effect upon himself of Mr. Burke's terrible opening. So I might multiply examples, but all to no purpose.

"The student of oratory will find no better or safer model than Mr. Phillips, if he would seek direct, incisive speech, abundance and felicity of illustration, skill in applying truth to present needs, and, above all, the union of the highest gifts of eloquence with lightness of touch, a conversational reality of tone, and language level to the understanding of every hearer. Such mastery of invective also, keen and graceful as a Damascus blade, it has well been said lends new meaning to the term 'Phillipic.'"

I find that paragraph in a literary note, and since it expresses just what I think in better form than I can put it, I have not hesitated to use it. Among the orations in this book is the *Lost Arts*; an oration

delivered more than 2,000 times. I confess I cannot understand why. There are in this book much more powerful and enduring speeches; besides, oratory itself is a Lost Art.

Mr. Benjamin R. Tucker, a publisher of Boston, has begun a little periodical the name of which sets forth its character, thus—*The Weekly Bulletin of Newspaper and Periodical Literature*. The scheme is to arrange under subjects, alphabetically, such articles as appear on those subjects, whether in newspapers or periodicals, whenever the articles possess sufficient value or general interest to warrant such notice. Mr. Tucker then issues *coupons at ten cents each*, which he will receive in payment for such article as may be desired, which he will forward to the person desiring it. Certain articles require two, and certain others three coupons, all of which are distinctly marked in each issue. It is impossible since the multiplication of periodicals to keep run even of the names of them, much less of their contents. Now here is a way by which any one interested in any subject, can keep run of all the articles which appear upon that subject throughout the country, and speedily obtain possession of them. The coupon scheme is novel and excellent, as it furnishes an easy way of remitting small amounts by mail with perfect safety, and does not oblige a person to take vast amounts of postage stamps. Mr. Tucker's scheme deserves success.

Lee and Shepard, of Boston, have in press a handsomely illustrated volume by the Rev. Louis Albert Banks. The book is a series of realistic studies of the Sweating, Tenement House, and kindred wrongs of the working people of our great cities. Dr. Banks' extensive personal investigations eminently qualify him for this task. Dr. Lyman Abbott writing of Dr. Banks' recent series of discourses on the Condition of the Boston Poor, which has at-

tracted attention from the Atlantic to the Pacific, says: "Since Kingsley's 'Alton Locke,' there has been no indictment more severely just of present industrial conditions."

PROVIDENCE THE ONLY CAPITAL OF RHODE ISLAND.—The question, Why has Rhode Island two capitals? is answered by Sidney S. Rider in BOOK NOTES at length, but the sum of his answer is that Providence is the only capital of Rhode Island. This knocks over all the geographies and encyclopedias, but Mr. Rider is clear in his deductions from history. He shows the evolution of the present state of affairs. When the old colony of Rhode Island consisted of four towns, Newport, Portsmouth, Providence and Warwick, the General Assembly met in rotation in each town. Under the charter of Charles II the colonial government was set up at Newport, and there each year the people were to meet to elect state officers, but for three quarters of a century the Assembly continued to "board around," as it were, in the same towns. So it went on, the towns in which the sessions were held changing for convenience, until in 1854, when the constitution was amended so as to direct the holding of one annual session at Newport and its adjournment to Providence, as it is to this day:—

"No law was ever enacted creating two capitals. The state offices and the state archives are all at Providence, where they were brought many years since; but the counting of the votes for state officers and the proclaiming of the governor is still annually continued at Newport as of yore, and a three or four days' session of the Assembly, prolific of evil legislation, is still held there."

Mr. Rider makes a detailed study of the history thus outlined, with many interesting particulars,—such as he is wont to produce in his excellent and very readable little magazine, which is a credit to Providence—and he sums up the matter in this fashion:—

"Legally, under the charter, Newport was the seat of government and hence was the capital, and the only capital. The charter went out in 1842, and the seat of government was transferred gradually to Providence; here is the official residence of the governor and the offices of all the state officers; here are the state archives and here all the state business is to-day transacted. Providence is the capital of Rhode Island, and Rhode Island has not two capitals"—*Springfield Republican*.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., August 29, 1891.

A considerable collection of books on Horses, their care, and their cure in case of sickness, has been placed in Mr. Rider's hands for sale. The collection was made by the late Charles H. Childs.

A gentleman of this city requests Book NOTES to say that he has a fine portrait in oil of President Wayland, late of Brown University, which he is desirous of selling. It is by the late Mrs. Chapin.

A well bound, interleaved *Greek New Testament*, in two volumes, with carefully written notes by the Rev. Jonathan Leavitt, now for sale by Mr. Rider, in whose hands the entire library has been placed, affords somebody an opportunity to obtain a peculiarly interesting memento of the modest but learned and pious pastor.

Mr. Walter R. Benjamin, a dealer in autographs in New York, publishes *The Collector*, a monthly bulletin, as a means of disseminating information concerning the documents which he offers, and such other information as he conceives to be interesting and valuable to autograph collectors. The *Collector* is edited with scholarly skill, and contains a great deal of knowledge useful to anybody whether autograph inclined or otherwise. With the September number the *Collector* enters upon its fifth year; it is then to be enlarged in size and doubled in price. In one of his new departments Mr. Benjamin proposes publishing some of the letters which come into his hand as autographs, and which come from celebrated people, and possess interest. The present number has a letter from Carlyle, one from Henry A. Wise, one from Andrew Jackson, and one from Edward Everett Hale pitching into a newspaper for pitching into General Butler.

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 This author was of Rhode Island birth; his people fled from Newport at the beginning of the Revolution.
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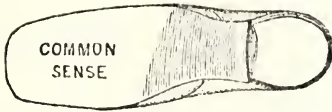
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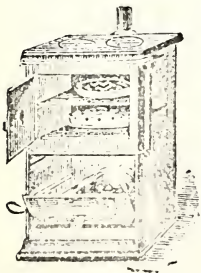
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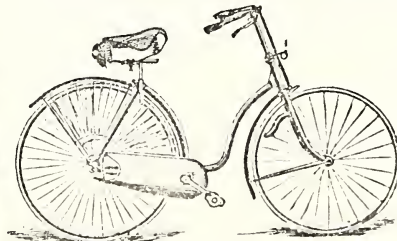


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THE WATER NECTAR AND THE
ROCKS PURE GOLD.

In the autumn of 1858 a group of gentlemen gathered in a well-known bookshop were discussing the introduction of pure water into Providence. One among them, a physician, now dead, but then standing in the front rank, turned to the writer and said, "I give it to you, gentlemen, as my positive conviction, that the introduction of the Pawtuxet water will positively lessen cases of sickness and disease in Providence." He spoke on the presumption that those waters were practically pure; for in those days the word pollution in connection with them was unheard. Exactly twenty years elapsed when in the autumn of 1888 there occurred an epidemic of typhoid fever in this delightful city. From the 8th of November to the 12th of December (33 days) two hundred and fifty-four cases occurred — (Report Sup. Health, p. 47.) This number is the largest ever reported saving in the year 1882, at which period also these waters were in use. The Superintendent of Health made immediate and searching investigations as to the cause of this extraordinary outbreak of the disease. His

story appears in pages 15-18 of his report of that year. It was practically this: He found at Natick a group of tenements occupied by French Canadians, which people he specifically described as "filthy in their habits." Among this group there occurred twenty cases of the typhoid. The privies used by these people were well cemented, and were about fifteen or twenty feet from the Pawtuxet river, the land sloping to it. The Superintendent states that places were seen (by himself) on the banks of the stream where the slops (of these filthy sick people) mingled with fecal matter were slowly working their way into the water. — (Rep. p. 18.) The Superintendent then finds that on the 9th, 10th and 26th of November, heavy rains fell, "which might have washed a greater or lesser amount of these typhoid stools into the Pawtuxet river," (Report, p. 18,) and his records show the immediate appearance of the disease in alarming numbers in Providence. Cause and effect can scarcely be joined with more unerring certainty. This whole business, which is of such vital consequence to the people, and especially to the poorer classes, is irrevocably given for its performance to the servants of the people, the officers of the City Government. BOOK NOTES proposes to let them tell their own stories of their faithlessness in this most vital work. Official documents alone will be

cited, the beautiful Blue Books of the City Council.

Mayor Hayward in his retiring address, 1884, (page 6,) says: "The opinion has seemed to prevail for some time past with many citizens, that the Pawtuxet water had in some way deteriorated since its first introduction." How water can deteriorate itself his Honor does not explain, but he admits distrust on the part of the people, and responsibility on the part of the city authorities, in that he says, "as a result of recent negotiations the accomplishment of this object (prevention of pollution) *will speedily be attained.*" One thing he does not mention, to wit., a terrible report made to the "authorities" on the *Pollutions of the Pawtuxet*, by Dr. J. B. Chapin, in 1869, nearly fifteen years before, and all those years the deluded citizens had been drinking this filth and dying because of it. Mayor Hayward refers to some discussions in the "press" to which I shall by and by refer.

In 1885 Mayor Doyle reassures us with the "fact that careful attention was being given to the matter of the purification of the Pawtuxet river from whatever impurities might enter it from any source," and he continues, "satisfactory results (had been reached) in making negotiations with nearly all the parties on the banks of the river." (Address, p. 28.) There, read carefully those paragraphs, and get out of them all that they mean, which is positively nothing; but let me call your attention to the Eleventh Quarterly Report of the Board of Public Works, (Messrs. Charles E. Carpenter and Clinton D. Sellw constituting the "Board,") page 16, made September 30, 1885. "Considerable progress had been made in the removal of impurities from the Pawtuxet river; the Board is now able to say that very much has been done; of *privies, sinks, pig pens and barns*, which had more or less drainage into the stream, six-sevenths were shut off by

September 30, and a part of the remaining seventh by the time this report was committed to the printer." The "Board" admits the pollution, and its own liability to action, and declares that it has acted, and then makes a statement the truthfulness of which will appear as we proceed. But Mr. Sellw makes no allusion to the terrible report made by Dr. J. B. Chapin, which had for sixteen years, been in his hands as an officer of the Board of Public Works. The Report continues: "A few manufacturing establishments discharge the waste from wool scouring, from bleaching, and from dyeing, into the river." Concerning this species of pollutions BOOK NOTES suggests to the "Board" a consideration of the cases adjudicated by the Supreme Court of Rhode Island, brought by the Richmond Mfg. Co. *vs.* Atlantic De-Laine Co., and by the Silver Spring Bleachery *vs.* the Wanskuck Co. Consider, I say, these cases, which are positively controlling in these matters, but when you consider them, ask yourselves, which is of the greatest consequence to a people, the *pecuniary interests of a dozen*, or the *vital interests*, the actual question of life or death to the whole people; but the Supreme Court has already covered the whole ground so far as the law in the case is concerned. Let me return to the Superintendent of Health. He finds that the Board of Health reports that at the beginning of the year 1886, "it had succeeded in removing all the privies from the banks of the Pawtuxet river," (*City Doc. Dec. 12, 1887, page 18,*) but that *he*, the Superintendent of Health, finds "certain places where drainage may at times get into the river" from these foul sources, (p. 19), and he further suggests that in addition to the removing of disease germs, methods which would render the water clear and free from "*sediment*," would be most acceptable to our people." In 1888 came the fierce epidemic of typhoid, reference to which is made

above, and the report upon which, is a fearful indictment of the work of the city "authorities." In 1889, the Superintendent of Health again comes to the question; he says, (Report p. 34.) "I made a thorough examination of the Pawtuxet river, many sources of pollution were found along the banks, and steps were at once taken by the Commissioner of Public Works (John A. Coleman) to induce the riparian owners to put their proper ties in such conditions that there could be no possibility of dangerous pollution; an inspector was at once put on to see that the recommendations of the Commissioner were properly carried out. *Unfortunately they were not,*" and he continues, "it is certain that a single evacuation from the bowels of a typhoid or cholera patient would be sufficient if discharged into the Pawtuxet, of causing an epidemic of these diseases in Providence; "it is this danger of pollution by human excrement, which is to be guarded against" — "If we could keep out human faeces we should feel much relieved"; but now read what this same officer says in this same report (page 35). "At the request of the Commissioner of Public Works, (John A. Coleman), I again made a thorough examination of the river in the autumn, (1889). I personally inspected the banks as far up as Hope, on the north branch, and Washington on the south branch, and the few villages above these places were visited by the sanitary inspector; as was before stated, there are only *one or two privies*, which are *directly over the stream*, but there are *scores which leak or overflow into it*. There are also a few barn-yards, pig-styes and sink-drains, which discharge into the water. As regards manufacturing refuse, the river is not seriously polluted at present. There are *only a few woolen mills* and they are not large; there are two print works and one bleachery; these all discharge material into the water, which should not go into it; such

material may not contain germs of specific diseases, but it adds organic material, which renders the water a better vehicle for such germs * * and can produce a most serious pollution, as is the case with the Woonasquatucket river. (page 36). Enough of such woolen mills and bleach works on the Pawtuxet and we should be obliged to give up drinking the water. * * I must confess that I was surprised on my last visit up the stream to find that many property owners along the banks, men of wealth, and residents of this city, deliberately neglected, or refused to remedy the sources of pollution on their property, after such sources had been specifically pointed out." (Rep. p. 36.)

Thus stands the case, told solely by the officers charged with this vital service. For twenty-three years this mixture, called "pure Pawtuxet," has been flowing through the pipes into our houses,—during all these years this condition has been known to the officers so charged. Have the people no remedy? Twenty years ago, Dr. J. B. Chapin, the father of the present Superintendent, made his terrible report. If it was not suppressed, it certainly was not promulgated, and ever since we have been drinking a mixture of human faeces, wool scourings, barn-yard manures and pig-stye drippings, and calling it "pure Pawtuxet." Have we no remedy? These Chapins certainly are faithful to their trusts; they come and go in generations, and their grand-children will yet be pointing out to our grand-children, the number of cubic feet of human faeces which weekly flow through the clean, sweet pipes of the Pawtuxet. Have we no remedy?

Turn with me to Mayor Barker's last address (page 22): "Due care has been exercised to prevent the pollution of the Pawtuxet river, and stringent measures *will be taken* against any one who corrupts or renders the same impure; the penalty prescribed by the Public Laws for such

an offence is extremely severe, and if a regard for the health (of those dependent on this stream for this necessity of life) will not restrain those who pollute the river, they must be deterred by the heavy fine and imprisonment which the law imposes." Turn with me now to the reassuring English of the present incumbent, his Honor Mayor Smith. "The Water Department is in a flourishing condition; it has taken active measures throughout the year to prevent defilement of the Pawtuxet. There are several manufacturing establishments which are serious offenders against the laws governing this important matter; for (twenty-three) years the proprietors have been admonished, *but nothing has resulted*."—(State Board of Health, 1890, page 52.) Could confession of utter failure be more complete? I applied at the office of the City Solicitor for information as to what legal remedies had been taken; this officer was *non est inventus*, but the Secretary of the Commissioner of Public Works kindly exhibited the law to me, all about which I knew before, and informed me of the result of a suit brought under it against an offender in Coventry, or somewhere else, before a country justice. It was a nonsuit. I have not yet learned how a country justice of the peace could make a final decree in a case which the law declares shall be presented to the Grand Jury. If this is true, and it was given to me as I have written, it ought to cause, and would cause, the dismissal of the attorney in the case of any corporation whose operations were carried on merely for pecuniary gain, and which were not, like municipal operations, *vital* in their consequences. Look at the city of Worcester, compelled by mill owners along down the Blackstone, to build vast precipitation works, and to stop turning the pure sources of the stream into a river of filth! If the mill owners could force the city, could not the city have forced the mill owners.

An idea occurs to me: For twenty-three

years the city of Providence has been engaged in supplying to its citizens a species of fertilizer as a beverage. Why not enter directly into the business? Let tables be prepared showing exactly how much of each kind of filth the average citizen can stand. This will enable the people along the banks to lower the flashboards of these privies just in accordance with our endurance; and the city would have this advantage over all the present dealers in fertilizers, in that it would supply in addition a complete antidote to a drought. There's millions in it—millions of microbes. Did ever anybody see a more ridiculous farce? It is a reproduction in actual life of the nursery rhyme of the old woman and her pigs, which wouldn't go over the stile.

Rope won't hang butcher—butcher won't kill ox—ox won't drink water—water won't quench fire—fire won't burn stick—stick won't beat dog—dog won't bite pig—pig won't go. Here we have a Superintendent of Health, a Board of Health, a Commissioner of Public Works, a City Solicitor, a Supreme Court, and as the most recent Mayors inform us, a most stringent code. The apparatus seems to be complete, * * but—Superintendent can't move Board—Board won't move Commissioner—Commissioner won't move Solicitor—Solicitor won't move Court—Court can't execute Laws—Laws won't execute themselves—and so the inoffensive citizen must go on drinking a mixture of—and—, and human faeces. My task is done. It is a thankless one; for I shall gain not the friendship of the people whose battle I have fought, but only the enmity of those whose administration of a public trust I have assailed; hence, personally, my gain is loss, but my purpose is so to present the case as that it will lead to an irrepressible agitation, and that a better administration of an indispensable office obtain. Let the city authorities stop talking and go to work. Soot words butter no parsnips. The statute under which they introduce water into the city requires of them in specific terms PURE water. See the statute itself in verification.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Sept. 12, 1891.

The season for State and County Fairs is close at hand. Intending purchasers should remember what a greatly increased, more lasting and more favorable impression their goods will make if illustrated by means of cuts, and the pictures of these distributed among visitors by means of circulars or other printed matter,—or the greater prominence given a firm whose advertising matter distributed at the Fair is of the nature of a souvenir or novelty, serving to catch the eye and be retained by the recipient when other matter is thrown away as soon as received. The Ryder & Dearth Co., Engravers and Printers, at 146 Westminster street, Providence, R. I., are specialists in these lines, as well as that of getting up special designs, electrotypes, etc., and will execute your orders in the best manner possible at moderate prices.

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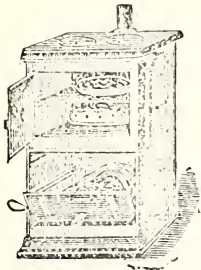
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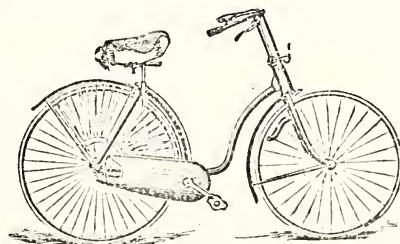
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| " 21, 1888, " " " " " " | - | - | - | 1,682,217.74 |
| " 19, 1889, " " " " " " | - | - | - | 2,246,981.29 |
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VOL. 8
No. 20

THE NEW STABLE OF AUGÉAS.

BOOK NOTES offers no apology for coming again to the consideration of the Pawtuxet water which the citizens of Providence as a whole are obliged to drink. The article in the last issue made a profound impression. While it was not entirely new to many people, yet there were in it suggestions which were new to many people. The truth is, that in former years it was the policy of the Board of Public Works to stifle discussion. As a matter of fact to which I am personally knowing, the press was completely muzzled. The object of this Board in so doing is not at first apparent; but upon consideration its purpose becomes clear. It was sworn to serve honestly the people. Did it do so? Not a bit of it. on the contrary, the Board deceived the people by the suppression of the truth and by the direct statements put forth by it in the city Blue Books. This is shown by the statement made December 31, 1885, (p. 15): "The remaining sources of pollution, few in number, must necessarily continue till spring fairly opens." A year later, December 31, 1886, the Superintendent of Health (p. 18-19) says that of 122 privies emptying into the river only two remain; and he says, "but a single privy is enough to infect the entire water supply of the city and produce an epidemic

of disease; the city has already spent several thousand dollars in removing these nuisances, and it is *criminal folly to allow any to remain.*" Still a year later, and what does this officer report? He says, (p. 18, Dec. 31, 1887,) "the Board of Public Works reports that they have during the year (1887) *succeeded in removing all the privies from the banks of the river*; there are, however, certain places where drainage may at times get into the river; bleacheries, dye-works, wool scouring works still discharge into the river, and occasionally dead animals, slops, night soil and other offensive matters are thrown in." All this after the Board of Public Works have cleaned the stream. But now come down still later and read what this officer says, December 31, 1889, p. 34: "I made a thorough examination of the Pawtuxet river, many sources of pollution were found along the banks, and steps were at once taken by the Commissioner of Public Works (John A. Coleman) to induce the riparian owners to put their properties in such condition that there could be no possibility of dangerous pollution; an inspector was at once put on to see that the recommendations of the Commissioner were properly carried out. *Unfortunately they were not*"; and he continues, "it is certain that a single evacuation from the bowels of a typhoid or cholera patient would be sufficient if

discharged into the Pawtuxet, of causing an epidemic of these diseases in Providence; it is this danger of pollution by human excrement which is to be guarded against." "If we could keep out human faeces we should feel much relieved." Now read what this same officer says in this same report (page 35): "At the request of the Commissioner of Public Works, (John A. Coleman,) I again made a thorough examination of the river in the autumn, (1889.) I personally inspected the banks as far up as Hope, on the north branch and Washington on the south branch, and the few villages above these places were visited by the sanitary inspector; as was before stated, there are only *one or two privies* which are *directly over the stream*, but there are *scores which leak or overflow into it*. There are also a few barn-yards, pig-styes and sink-drains, which discharge into the water. As regards manufacturing refuse, the river is not seriously polluted at present. There are *only a few woolen mills* and they are not large; there are two print works and one bleachery; these all discharge material into the water, which should not go into it; such material may not contain germs of specific diseases, but it adds organic material, which renders the water a better vehicle for such germs * * and can produce a most serious pollution, as is the case with the Woonasquatucket river, (page 36). Enough of such woolen mills and bleach works on the Pawtuxet and we should be obliged to give up drinking the water. * * I must confess that I was surprised on my last visit up the stream to find that many property owners along the banks, men of wealth, and residents of this city, deliberately neglected or refused to remedy the sources of pollution on their property, after such had been specifically pointed out." (Report, p. 36.)

All this after the city had expended thousands of dollars for removing these nuisances. Let us look for a moment at

the list of those who had to be paid for desisting from the defilement of their neighbors' drinking water. This list will not be found in the city Blue Books, but it is nevertheless recorded. Here follows only a portion of them:

| | | | |
|----------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|
| Interlaken Mills, | \$500 | Patrick McMahon, | \$115 |
| Lippitt Mfg. Co., | 100 | Benjamin Moon, | 500 |
| S. E. Card, | 290 | Harris Mfg. Co., | 2500 |
| Seituate Mfg. Co., | 200 | J. V. Briggs & wife, | 200 |
| C.W. Cook and wife, | 49 | E.A. & J.N. Mumford, | 125 |
| Arthur Boylan, | 60 | Phebe M. Payson, | 50 |
| P.M. & R.F. Carroll, | 500 | Clara B. Miller, | 300 |
| H. F. Winsor, | 270 | B. F. Waterhouse, | 240 |
| L. Brayton & Co., | 150 | A. C. Williams, | 75 |
| George B. Atwood, | 35 | Jackson Mill Co., | 220 |
| John C. Conley, | 1400 | Philip Duffy, | 900 |
| W. G. Briggs, | 250 | Crompton Co., | 2900 |

These were all bought off in 1885-6, because they could not be induced willingly to cease defiling their neighbors' drinking water. The result was as is stated in the preceding extract from the Superintendent of Health, and in addition 254 cases of typhoid in 1888 which came from Natick. There are people who think that because some of these parties had defiled the stream before it was tapped by the city, that such parties had acquired as against the city, a prescriptive right to continue the defilement. Suppose that Roger Williams, the first English owner of this stream, had resolved to poison its source, there being no opposition, he might have done so, but would he thereby have acquired a prescriptive right now in his descendants, as against all other people? Those who think so know little of the fundamental principles of all human laws. But there are items in these payments which suggest reflection. These payments were made to parties who maintained nuisances which it was "*criminal folly*" on the part of the city to allow to remain (Supt. of Health). "The most stringent measures will be taken (when) against those who corrupt or render the same impure, the penalty prescribed by the law is extremely severe—they must be deterred by the heavy fine and imprisonment,"—this by Mayor Barker, 1890.

There is food for reflection, I say, when under such conditions, \$3000 was paid in 1886 to the Crompton Company. But there is another point of view in the payment which is most interesting. In my former paper reference was made to a suit brought by the Richmond Manufacturing Co. against the Atlantic Delaine Co. for defilement of the Woonasquatucket river. The Delaine Company was forced by the decision of the Supreme Court to lay a sewer through Olneyville for the purpose of carrying the matter discharged from its bleachery and dye-houses and wool-scourings into the stream below the print-works of the Richmond Co. This suit was brought while Thomas A. Doyle was the Treasurer of the Delaine Co. and also Mayor of the city. The Crompton Co., who were paid \$3000 to stop befouling their neighbors' water, is in its personnel practically the same as the Richmond Manufacturing Co.,—the sons of the late G. M. Richmond. As the Richmond Company, they by this suit had taught the city the remedy against themselves as the Crompton Company. What matters it that a Kent county grand jury is in the hands of corporations and cannot be induced upon evidence to indict? The Richmond Co. found a bill in equity an effective remedy. Why not get a Solicitor who can and will draw one? The Supreme Court surely is not in the hands of the Kent county manufacturers. It is stated that these large sums were paid by the city to these men to help them in moving their sources of nastiness. How much money do you suppose the Richmond Manuf. Co. gave to the Atlantic Delaine Co. towards the expense of laying the sewer which their bill in equity forced that company to lay? Such is the administration of the city affairs!

Men say that it is politics which is at the bottom of it all; that men who desire office in the city government solicit funds for the prosecution of their private schemes, and that thereby these servants

of the city are placed under such obligations to the parties contributing as to prevent any effort to enforce the laws for the protection of the people against them. An instance occurs to me: The late Commissioner of Public Works (John A. Coleman) stopped the Journal Company from sinking a well in the public highway from which to obtain the water used by that company without paying the city water rate for it. The *Journal* gave all its influence to defeat Coleman and elect another Commissioner. The effort was successful; Mr. Smith, the present commissioner, was elected; the Journal Company resumed its work on the public highway—Mr. Smith saw no way to prevent the unlawful outrage, and their well is now in operation. These things are all true—why do men submit to them? have men lost their old time spirit? If it is politics, then why not take a hand in politics? The remedy lies wholly in your own hands; you have the votes, and these men cannot buy that which you will not sell. You can make it positively dangerous for anybody to do that which the Journal Company did; and one day's work on your part would so remedy the political optics of the Commissioner of Public Works that he would not fail to see clearly during the remainder of his natural life. Such a scandal as the payment to the Crompton Company would not go unwhipt of justice. The State of Rhode Island has a settlement at Howard of 2000 persons, criminals, paupers, lunatics, and other unnecessary people; Pawtuxet water is used on the lands there as a fertilizer but never supplied to these useless people to drink. Officers sworn to give us pure water are, or have been, supplied either at the city's expense or by free gift, with spring waters, while 15,000 children in the public schools are given this mixture described by the Superintendent of Health as being tainted with human feces, drainage from barn-yards, pig-styes, sink-drains, wool-scourings,

etc. The State will not permit its criminals or paupers to drink that which the city authorities force the school children to swallow. Is there no God in Israel?

One other point in the administration of this most vital service to which I wish to make reference. It is to the semi-monthly chemical analyses. Of what use is this expense other than to the individual who makes them, to wit., Prof. Appleton? It has been going on fifteen years at an annual expense of \$360. Why continue it? The chemical composition of these waters is well known, and has long been seen. It is what cannot be seen, and which these chemical analyses cannot disclose, which is dangerous. Seven years ago the Board of Public Works said, (Report, Sept. 30, 1885, p. 16,) "when the water works were first projected, it was a generally accepted opinion that chemical analysis could readily disclose the harmful impurities in water supply, but science seems now to assert that some mischievous agents elude even extraordinary tests." Thereupon these useless chemical analyses were continued. In his Report, Dec. 31, 1890, page 39, the Superintendent of Health says, concerning driven wells in certain river valleys, "the tests of the water made were biological, for I had no appropriation which could be devoted to chemical analysis; the latter, though interesting would, considering the results obtained by the biological tests, not be absolutely necessary to form a correct judgment as to the potability of the water." Certain chemical analyses made by Prof. Appleton, the Superintendent of Health declares were not entirely satisfactory, but he continues, "the biological tests being entirely satisfactory, it is not of much moment what the chemical analysis of the water is in these particular cases." Then why is a chemical analysis of the Pawtuxet every fourteen days necessary?

No kind of literary composition is more difficult than the writing of short stories,

and no kind of literary compositions are more desirable. The number of people who have no mental power to keep run of a long story, but who are yet quite equal to a short one, is amazing; besides, in case a moral is to be conveyed, or a point enforced, the advantage is always with the short, terse, clear statement. A very clever collection of such stories is that published by Lee & Shepard, under the title, *Coupon Bonds*, by Mr. J. T. Trowbridge. This book, published some twenty years or more ago, contains ten stories, among which is Nancy Blinn's Lovers, which is excellent. This book has now been included in the Good Company series, at 50 cents. It was first published by J. R. Osgood & Co. at \$3.00 per copy.

The following paragraph appeared in BOOK NOTES, August 1st:

"On July 9, 1763, Mr. William Goddard announced that his sign was Shakespeare's Head, and that he had removed to the store of Judge Jenckes, near the Great Bridge, which is, I believe, where the People's Savings Bank now is."

Mr. Henry C. Dorr informs me that the store of Judge Jenckes was in a building which stood on the corner of South Main street and Market Square, and which was torn down when College street was extended, or the street widened on the southerly side of the old City Hall. The writer has made no research, but assumes Mr. Dorr to be correct. Another matter to which Mr. Dorr takes exception is a paragraph, June 20th, concerning the name, "Constitution Hill," and how it arose. BOOK NOTES inferred from the language quoted from Mr. Dorr's *Tract*, that the period of the adoption of the U. S. Constitution was the period to which Mr. Dorr referred as giving rise to the name, but Mr. Dorr informs me that he referred to the period of the Stamp Act, 1765. Upon a re-examination of the question, BOOK NOTES sees no reason for changing what it then wrote. The origin of the name is obscure; of course it arose during the ante-revolutionary period, but when, or how, or by what circumstance, no one has yet found out.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Sept. 26, 1891.

In his Providence *Book Notes* of August 5, Mr. S. S. Rider adds a few more sprigs of laurel to the wreath on Roger Williams's brow. He shows how Massachusetts owed to the diplomacy of her exiled son her escape from an overwhelming combination of hostile tribes, at the time of the Pequot war. This is not denied by many historians of Massachusetts, who still do not bring it out in its "real light," Mr. Rider thinks, while its deliberate suppression by Hubbard and Hutchinson "makes a lie of history." It was Williams, too, who devised and communicated to Gov. Winthrop the plan of attack on the Pequots which was adopted with such success, and of which "the credit has been given wholly to others." Another point concerning which "all writers are silent" is Williams's prevention of an Indian alliance against the colonies for forty years

after the Pequot war; when the alliance was at last brought about under King Philip, the English were strong enough to sustain a shock that might have been fatal at an earlier date.—*The Nation*, August 27.

Mr. Sidney S. Rider will read an essay before the Franklin Society, Tuesday evening, September 29th, on the causes which produced the extraordinary political convulsion of 1842, commonly called the "Dorr War." Place, 54 North Main street; time, 8 o'clock. This paper will be the opening one in the course before the Society during the coming season. It is in no sense a reminiscence, but is an attempt at a close and careful historical study. No admission fee is charged, but those who are interested in such matters will be welcome.

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- ANSON, Lord George, Admiral. Life, by Sir J. Barrow. London. 1839. \$2.00
- HOWE, Richard, Earl, Admiral of the Fleet. Life, by Sir J. Barrow. London. 1838. \$2.00
- [The most interesting thing in this book is Franklin's narrative of a political trap set for him by Lord Howe.]
- MUNDAY, Major General. Life of Admiral Rodney. 2 vol. Lond. 1830. \$3.50
- BREXTON, Edward Pelham. Life of John, Earl of St. Vincent, Admiral of the Fleet. 2 v. London. 1838. \$5.50
- This author was of Rhode Island birth; his people fled from Newport at the beginning of the Revolution.
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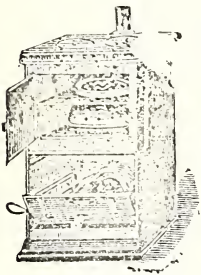
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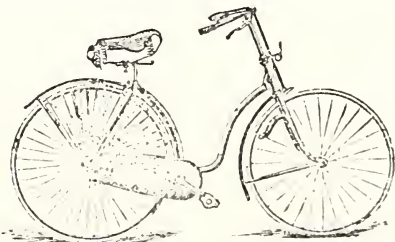
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SATURDAY, OCT. 10, 1891.

VOL. 8.
No. 21.

Roger Williams a Member of the Royal Society.

A paragraph can be found in the Rhode Island American, August 19, 1823, in which it is stated that it appears from a History of the British Royal Society, that Roger Williams was admitted a member in the year 1664, having been proposed by Sir Robert Moray, at the request of Sir Paul Neile. I wish very much to verify that statement, and have exhausted the sources at command here in Providence without success. Spratt's History of the Royal Society, published in London in 1667, gives a roll of the members, then some two hundred in number; but Williams does not appear. This, however, is not conclusive, for the reason that Mr. Spratt does not give the names of Moray or of Neile in his list, while both were original charter members, and Sir Robert Moray was its first President. Should the eyes of the librarians in some of the great libraries fall upon this paragraph, the writer hopes they will take the trouble to look into Birch's or Thompson's, or even the edition of Spratt's History of the Royal Society published about 1691, and find whether light can be thrown on the question. The statement in the newspaper was apparently made by Rev. J. D. Knowles, then the editor of the paper, and subsequently the author of the first Me-

moir of Williams. The statement does not I think appear in the memoir.

The writer of these papers had the honor to read recently a paper before the Franklin Society on the causes which led to the political revolution in Rhode Island in 1842, commonly called the Dorr War. At the close of the paper Mr. James Snow, Jr., arose and said in effect that he well remembered those times; he was a boy, and as a boy, he was ashamed to confess it, but he actually cast six votes for the People's Constitution, and that every boy of his acquaintance did likewise; that the polls were open six days; the first three for a kind of voters which he did not define, but the last three for all those who had not yet as Mr. Snow declares that he had, cast six votes. The object of Mr. Snow's confession was to throw discredit upon certain figures presented in my essay. It is positively malicious to unsettle the moral convictions of men. Mr. Snow believes, and wishes us to believe, that he began his Rhode Island political career as a political rascal, but he is mistaken. He is not the political rascal which his confession would make apparent. He didn't do anything of the kind. I ought to have kept a record of the men who have made to me the same declaration. Only a few weeks since a gentleman in whom it would be as morally

impossible to make a false statement as it would be in Mr. Snow, told me that he also voted for the People's Constitution, but that he was a minor. Had he done so what difference would it have made? Does he believe that in Rhode Island since 1842 down to the latest election not one fraudulent vote has been cast? His name is indeed recorded, and on his ballot were these words: "I am an American citizen of the age of twenty-one years," and this he signed with ink. Now who is to blame for that? But in Mr. Snow's case his tale is wholly nonsense. The votes were not cast in hats, as he stated, nor all the voting done in one place, but in wards just as it is now; the voting did not continue six, but three days, and every man who voted signed with his own hand the phrase above. Those who voted were classified as follows: Freemen, non-Freemen, Persons qualified but not admitted, Voters by proxy according to the Rhode Island ancient system. These proxy votes in Providence numbered 99 in a total of 3556, and were cast in only two of the six wards. There were 13,164 ballots cast for adoption; on every ballot was written the name of the person who cast it, and these names were printed by order of Congress directly from these ballots taken to Washington in an iron chest for this purpose. It was the names of men, not ballots, which were counted; no ballot was counted on which was not written by himself the name of some responsible man. An unsigned ballot was not a vote, it was a blank ballot; hence Mr. James Snow, Jr., did not vote, and the evidence is that he is not so recorded. Personally it is a matter of indifference to me how Mr. Snow voted, but under his statement it is requisite for me to know with accuracy how it was. I am in this business for history, and it is quite evident that something more than this tale, even were it backed by the affidavits of every man now living in Providence of the age of sixty years, would be required to overthrow recorded

historical facts regarding events which took place when these men were in their infancy. No, these boys played with the ballots after the election was over, and doubtless did use their hats for ballot boxes.

Somebody in Washington, D. C., applied to the Rhode Island Historical Society for the date of the death of Gen. Joseph Stanton, the first U. S. Senator from Rhode Island. Several months since the inquiry was put into the *Journal*, and that paper of October 1st gives the following answer:

THE QUESTION SETTLED.

The Rhode Island Historical Society has finally found out the date of the death of Gen. Joseph Stanton, who was Senator from Rhode Island from 1790 to 1793, and Representative from 1801 to 1807. The information was given by W. B. Spooner of Bristol, who derived it directly from Joseph Stanton Thomas of Bristol, who resided when a boy with Stanton. Gen. Stanton was born July 19, 1739, and died Dec. 15, 1821. He is buried four miles from Cross's Mills in Charlestown. There is only a rough stone with practically no inscription to mark the spot where this old Revolutionary soldier lies.

BOOK NOTES suggests that the question is not settled in the slightest degree by these statements. They may be true, but they are probably not true—and the Historical Society should have investigated before promulgating them. It is just these careless methods that has brought the work of the Historical Society into disrepute. Mr. W. B. Spooner says that J. S. Thomas told him that he, Thomas, when a boy lived with Gen. Stanton, and he says Thomas says Stanton died Dec. 15, 1821, and that no corroboration of the fact exists by reason of no inscribed headstone at Stanton's grave. BOOK NOTES suggests the complete absence of evidence in such a statement standing by itself, but when coupled with the fact that neither of the Providence papers, to wit, the *Journal*, the *Gazette*, nor the *American* mentions the death at or near that time

the statement becomes more than doubtful. William G. Goddard was the owner and publisher of the *American*, and he was a Rhode Islander first, last, and all the time. He was extremely careful to give short biographical sketches of the men and women of note who died in Rhode Island. He would never have overlooked the death of Stanton, the first Rhode Island Senator. We must have something more definite than this.

Among the books for children for the coming Christmas there comes "The Scarlet Tanager and other Bipedes, by Mr. J. T. Trowbridge. The book has four tales, one of which is Hile Hardack's New Foundland Pup. The Tanager is indeed a biped, but how about the "Pup," is he too a biped? The principal story gives its name to the book. The hero is a boy bird collector, Gaspar Heth, so passionately fond of this study of ornithology, for that is what it was, that he could with difficulty be persuaded to do any thing else, and this pursuit his parents regards as little less than time wickedly wasted. They did not understand the peculiar bent of the genius of the boy and so sought the advice of a school teacher. This teacher was a man of common sense; practically he told these poor people to find out the road which their boy wanted to travel, and then help him in every way to find it, and to travel safely and well in it, and he entered heartily into the work, which ended in complete success. The boy wanted a Scarlet Tanager for his collection and the story is how he at last obtained one. This is just the kind of a book boys like to read, and it is just one that won't hurt them after they have read it.

Among the earliest effects of the International Copyright Law is the "Broadway Series of Fiction." This series will consist of both English and American novels, every one of which will be copyrighted, and not to be obtained in any other form.

The price will be fifty cents each, and the volumes in 12mo, on excellent paper, and well printed. Among them will be stories by Mr. Clark Russell, Captain Hawley Smart, James Payn, Grant Allen, (among the first of living story writers,) Fitzgerald Molloy, whose story, "Sweet is Revenge," forms number one of the series. These are but a few of the writers announced by the publishers of the series, Messrs. John A. Taylor & Co., of New York. Book Notes is not friendly to the "protective tariff" principle of the International Copyright Law. Nevertheless, this illustration of the working of it seems to be good and to deserve success. The second volume in the series is by Mr. John Habberton, who wrote "Helen's Babies"; it is entitled "Out at Twinnetts." The same publishers have begun a second library called the "Mayflower." The first novel in this series is by the very popular Mrs. Alexander. It is entitled "Well Won." These novels are of unusual excellence.

The annual report of the Hawaiian Evangelical Association for 1891 has come to us, doubtless sent by the Rev. O. P. Emerson, Corresponding Secretary of the Association, but formerly the beloved Pastor of the Congregational Church at Peace Dale. The relations which existed between this pastor and the Peace Dale church is vividly shown by the gift by the church of \$473 66, to the Association of which Mr. Emerson is the Secretary. Book Notes does not reach an audience which would make necessary a synopsis of the contents of the Report; but there are two points to which it refers by means of a couple of extracts. "The saddest feature of our work to-day is the inefficiency and indifference of some of our pastors." "The record of the past year shows that our native churches are becoming less and less capable of independent pastoral support." The first is disheartening and for it there is no excuse, the last is discouraging.

When I came across the moving tale of the "Three Bears," in the "Doctor," I was struck with astonishment that so profound an intellect as Mr. Southey's could have done so clever a thing in a line so different. Something like the same thought struck me with regard to "John Gilpin," so different from any other thing which Mr. Cowper ever wrote. Now here we have in the newest literature something akin to these things. It is but a few months ago that a "Manual of Parliamentary Law" was published by Lee & Shepard, written by Harriette R. Shattuck. It was prepared especially for the use of women, and bears upon every page the impress of a hand guided by a cool, clear head, devoid of sentiment and trained in legal logic. *Presto*, here comes this same writer of abstract principles with a book in baby talk for babies. Yes, that is just what this little book—"Little Folks Out West"—is, neither more nor less, only it's more. This legal lady writes in baby talk just as naturally as she could had she never written any other language. Her stories are as pure as the head waters of the Pawtuxet. They will not like the waters of that stream poison the children whom they were intended to captivate. Her book is charming.

Effie W. Merriman, editor of the "House-keeper," is the author of a little book for young people entitled "The Little Millers." It is her third publication by Lee & Shepard; her two others being "Pards" and "A Queer Family." The characters in all these books are what we call street "arabs" or street urchins, and the stories consist of the delineation of the child life of such little people. It is a criticism against Mr. Dickens that so many of his characters exhibit low types. This may be true, and yet be no just criticism, because virtue must be more difficult of maintenance in a surrounding of low conditions, and hence is more praiseworthy than when exhibited in classes not so surrounded. If this be so, then it cannot

be less praiseworthy to describe those who in the lower walks of life exhibit virtue. This is the charm of this lady's books. She writes extremely graphic pictures of brave and virtuous little people, whose lot in life has been cast by no act of their own among the very lowest; and she does this with so much simplicity, or with so much art, I don't know which, that I am positively charmed with her little books. BOOK NOTES has always said and it now re-iterates that her books are admirable.

Who would imagine from the title, "Abbott's Primitive Industry," that it was a book wholly confined to the delineation of specimens of the stone and earthen utensils made by the natives here, the American Indians, and to descriptions of the same; yet that is just what it is. Whoever saw a man who was not interested in these relics of an extinct race; their stone axes and grooved hammers and chipped flint knives, mortars and pestles; their baked kettles and pipes; their gorgets and totems, and pendants and trinkets and hundreds of other utensils. A friend of mine at Pine Hill described to me a pipe of baked clay, which he took from an Indian's grave some years since. It had three bowls attached to a single stem. Dr. Abbott declares that nothing of all the handiwork of these strange people in stone or clay possesses so great an interest as their pipes, and he gives many illustrations of specimens which have been found; but he gives no illustration of such a specimen as my friend found, which would now be invaluable, and not the less so since it was found in the grave of a Narragansett. Dr. Abbott's "Primitive Industry" can be bought at 61 Snow street.

The thirteenth novel in the Good Company Series published by Lee & Shepard, is entitled "Augustus Jones, Jr." It is by Fitz Hugh Ludlow, and it was published originally under the name, the "Little Brother and other Stories." The little brother was Augustus Jones, Jr. There are four stories in the volume. Mr. Ludlow, now some twenty years dead, was at times employed on the "World," "Evening Post," "Commercial Advertiser" and "Home Journal."

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Oct. 10, 1891.

The interest with which boys watch for the successive issue of the stories by Oliver Optic is known to every bookseller. The youthful mind seems to grasp quickly the graphic delineations of Mr. Optic's characters, and to hold them firmly in memory. "Stand by the Union" is just out, but there is not a boy in Providence who has forgotten Captain Christy Passford and his faithful steward Dave. There is something in naval operations peculiarly charming to boys. This no doubt is one cause of the great success which this, "The Blue and the Gray" series of books has obtained. An entirely new generation has come since the wars of the Rebellion. Young men who next autumn will cast their first vote for Grover Cleveland were unborn for five years after the bloody war was over. These stories by Mr. Optic have all the charm of romance to them, for they know nothing of the reality of the deadly breach.

Sophie May, who has from year to year been giving us pictures of "Quinnebasset Girls," brings the series to an end with a story just published by Lee & Shepard, entitled "In Old Quinnebasset." Somewhere in Maine she says it is, or was, but wherever it was there was a charming lot of girls grew up in it. Don't you remember "Our Helen," and the "Doctor's Daughter," how delightful they were? In this new one Sophie May draws a picture of society life there in the almost colonial days which followed the close of the Revolutionary war. Such a tale requires, if the tale is well told, a deal of study to give a graphic freshness to it and at the same time to avoid anachronisms. In this respect Sir Walter Scott was the great master. His historical tales are history. Sophie May's new book is a very sweet and charming story for girlhood—only now, there is no such period of feminine life as girlhood—she is either a child or a young lady; but that won't make any difference, the tale is elastic enough to suit any age.

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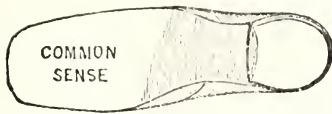
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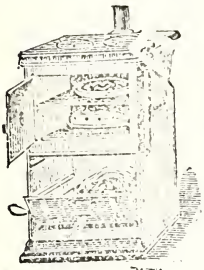
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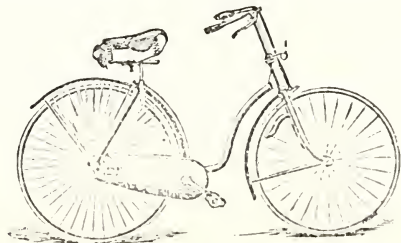
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SATURDAY, OCT. 24, 1891.

VOL. 8.
No. 22.

The Legal Rights of the City of Providence in the Matter of the Pollution of the Pawtuxet.

The Rhode Island "Democrat" under the new management displays a material advance in everything pertaining to a good newspaper. Mr. Bowditch has wrought wonders in a week. BOOK NOTES does not say this because of the handsome compliments uttered by the "Democrat" concerning the writer of BOOK NOTES, but as an introduction to a further discussion of a question wherein the "Democrat" disagrees with the said writer. The "Democrat" says: "Mr. Rider evidently infers that the property owners on the banks of the Pawtuxet ought to have ceased defiling the water without being paid for so doing. There we disagree with BOOK NOTES. The residents of the Pawtuxet valley have been in possession of riparian rights since the times of Roger Williams. The city of Providence's ownership in the waters is of a recent date. The rights of the few must be subordinated to the necessities of the many it is true, but when the city takes a man's door-yard for public use it must pay him the value of his land. It cannot take one man's property even for the benefit of a hundred thousand, unless it pays him the full value of such property. In the natural course of the laws of gravitation, barn-yards, pig-pens and out-houses standing on the

Pawtuxet's banks have drained down hill into the river from the time of the earliest settlements. To make them drain in any other direction is expensive business, and if the city wants it done it must pay for it."

Mr. Rider does infer precisely that which the "Democrat" says that he infers, and his inference rests firmly on the decrees of the Supreme Court of Rhode Island, which decrees, are as the "Democrat" well knows, a portion of the law of this State, as precisely similar decrees are parts of the laws of all other States. There are other things stated by the "Democrat" touching the taking of property for public uses with which I am not at variance,—but running water is not property; there can be no such thing as the "city of Providence's ownership of the water." The city is a riparian proprietor just like all other owners of the banks of the stream, but this proprietorship conveys no property in the waters. In support of this position I suggest "Angell on Water-courses," p 86. "By all modern as well as ancient authorities, the right of property in running water is usufructory, and consists not so much of the fluid itself as of the advantage of its momentum, or impetus; the grant by the legislature of a State of the water power of a navigable stream does not pass to the grantee the title to the *corpus* of the water or prevent

its use by others." Still further in support of this position I suggest the opinion of Mr. Justice Story in the case of *Tyler vs. Wilkinson*—the celebrated Sargent's Trench case, at Pawtucket. Judge Story says: "In virtue of this ownership he has a right to the use of the water flowing over it (the land) in its natural current without diminution or obstruction, but strictly speaking he has no property in the water itself; but simply a use as it passes along. The consequence of this principle is, that no proprietor has a right to use the water to the prejudice of another."—(Mason Reports, 400.) There is not included among riparian rights the right to defile, or befoyl; riparian rights do not touch the water itself, but touch only the land beneath the water and the banks of the stream. The word "riparian" is from the latin *ripa*, which means the bank of a stream; hence Bouvier defines riparian proprietors "as those who own the land bounding upon a water course." There being then no such thing as riparian ownership of running water, where does one riparian owner obtain the right to defile that which is not his own, but which belongs in its unadulterated use to every other owner, without regard to the time when these owners became owners? In support of this position I suggest "Angell on Water-courses," p. 142, concerning the injury by rendering the water corrupt and unwholesome. "It is clearly the duty of riparian proprietors upon a water-course to refrain from erecting upon its banks any works which render the water unwholesome or offensive. It was long ago adjudged to be illegal for a glover to set up a lime-pit for calf or sheep skins so near the water as to corrupt it." As long ago as Coke re-wrote Littleton, he said "if two owners of houses have a river in common between them and one of them corrupt the water, the other shall have his action."—(Coke on Littleton, 200 b.)

The scope of the decision in the Richmond Manufacturing Co.'s case is far

reaching; it was made by the Supreme Court of Rhode Island, and covers the Crompton Company's defilements completely and perfectly. The Delaine mill was built in 1851, the suit was brought in 1871; hence the Delaine Company had for twenty years been riparian proprietors. The Richmond Co.'s works had been built (I think) in 1838. An injunction issued against the Delaine Co. with the result which I have before stated. The opinion of the court says, (10 R. I. Rep. p. 111,) "The principles of law which govern this case are well settled; riparian proprietors, mill owners and others, have no right to render the water of a stream unwholesome or offensive." The opinion cites the case, *Holsman vs. Boiling Spring Dyeing Co.*, and adopts as its own opinion portions of the opinion of Chancellor Green in that case. The Chancellor says, "Where the nuisance operates to destroy health, or to diminish the comfort of a dwelling, an action at law furnishes no adequate remedy, and the party injured is entitled to an injunction."—(14 N. J. Eq. Rep. p. 343.) In this Holsman case the defendants showed as against the plaintiff, that their works had been used as a fulling and dyeing mill for more than twenty years before Holsman bought the land on which he built his house. This plea did not avail. The court held on this point that the defendants could "acquire no right by prescription until they show that the acts which are claimed to constitute the adverse user injured the complainants, and gave to them, or to those under whom they claimed title, a right of action; the very ground of title by adverse enjoyment is that the party against whom it is set up has so long permitted the adverse enjoyment and failed to vindicate his rights, so that the presumption of a grant is raised. But there can be no such presumption, and consequently no title by adverse enjoyment where no violation of a right is shown."—(14 N. J. Eq. Rep. p. 345.) The same

point is further enforced in the same opinion thus: "An action brought for overflowing the plaintiff's land by back-water from the defendant's mill dam, it establishing no title by adverse enjoyment to prove that the defendant's mill had been in existence over twenty years, or that the dam has been in existence for that period. The question is not how high the dam is, but how high the water has been held, and whether it has been held for twenty years so high as to affect the lands of the plaintiff as injuriously as it did at the time of the action brought."—(14 N. J. Eq. Rep. 345. Such is the law in the case.

I trust the "Democrat" will not fail to see that the views advanced in BOOK NOTES were no mere sentimental notions of its own, but the stern decrees of the best American courts. The legal remedies of the city of Providence as against those who persist in defiling the Pawtuxet are perfect and absolute. The city is a riparian proprietor, and possesses equal rights with every other such proprietor. Why then not enforce its rights instead of buying out periodically the other riparian proprietors? Instead of sending a check for \$3,000 to the Crompton Company, a bill in equity should have been filed. The result would have been that the \$9,000 paid at about the same time to other riparian defilers by the city would have been saved. Let me reproduce this list of men who had to be paid for doing that which by every principle of morals and of law they were bound to do. Here it is for 1885-6:

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| John C. Conley, | 1400 | Philip Duffy, | 900 |
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With a learned and expensive Solicitor to look after the legal interests of the city and the legal interests of everybody else, these moneys were paid to men for removing that which the Superintendent of Health said "*it was criminal folly to allow to remain.*" But in all these payments there is one which has a special sting for the bleeding tax-payer: it is that to the Crompton Company. Let us with Elijah invoke the Divine vengeance upon all such actions: "Lord God of Abraham, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel; and the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, *and licked up the water which was in the trench.*"

There comes from Lee & Shepard a book of original verses for children, by Mary Wiley Staver, entitled "New and True." It is practically a sort of Mother Goose, but as you are informed by the title, entirely original. It is a large and handsome quarto, with excellent illustrations as original as the text. Concerning it there is a phrase written by "Bob" Burdette, stamped upon the cover which runs thus: "Eighty degrees in the shade above all the rhyming juveniles." BOOK NOTES cannot say anything like that, in fact it cannot understand how the qualities of verse can be illustrated by a comparison with the temperature of the weather. No.—BOOK NOTES must keep to its level of common life, and it will remind you that no one person ever wrote Mother Goose: it was a crystallization of good things for many decades, gathered into a little book. This book, "New and True," is all written by one hand, and BOOK NOTES will just say that there are more clever things in it, comparable even with Mother Goose, than in all the original books which have seen the light between the two.

And the Lord said, because the cry against Sodom and Gomorrah is Fuller, and because their sin is great, I will go

down with McGuinness and see whether they have done according to the cry which is come unto me, and if not I will know; and men turned their faces thence and went for Sodom; but Abraham stood yet before the Lord and said, "wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked? peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city hall, wilt thou not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?" and the Lord said, "if I find fifty righteous including even my servant Vaughan, I will spare all the place." But Abraham yet stood before the Lord and said, "peradventure there shall lack five committee men of the public buildings, wilt thou destroy the city hall?" and the Lord said, "if I find there forty and five I will not destroy it;" and Abraham spake yet again, "peradventure there be forty?" and the Lord said, "I will not do it for forty's sake;" and Abraham said, "let not the Lord be angry and I will speak, and he said, "peradventure there be thirty found there?" and the Lord said "I will not do it if I find thirty there;" and Abraham said, "behold I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord,—peradventure there shall be twenty found there?" and the Lord said, "I will not destroy it for twenty's sake, even for my servants who serve two masters, and who run the committee on city property;" and Abraham said, "let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak but this once,—peradventure ten shall be found there?" and the Lord said, "I will not destroy it for ten's sake, save only that for those who permit the defilement of the wells of my people there shall be no mercy, for my people are as the hart which panteth for the water brooks." And the Lord went his way, and Abraham returned to his place; and Lot sat in the gates of Sodom even as a commissioner of public works; and Lot fled to the city of Zoar, first offering to surrender his two daughters to the wicked Sodomites, and Lot entered Zoar as the sun was risen upon the city hall;

and the Lord rained upon Sodom and Gomorrah brimstone and fire out of heaven and overthrew those cities.

Lee & Shepard publish a new novel by Virginia F. Townsend, entitled "Mostly Marjorie Day." What force the word "mostly" has in the title is not apparent. Marjorie Day was, like all heroines in novels, a very charming young woman—the incarnation of all the excellencies, and of surpassing loveliness. She started in life with the necessary adjuncts of most young women, a father and mother, and abundant money. The first and second she lost, and nearly lost the last. The ordinary vicissitudes of life pursued her for a while, until something not so very ordinary befell her,—she fell heiress by the will of an uncle to sixty millions. As between a pauper and a person with sixty millions there can be, so far as the misery of life is concerned, but little difference, and so Marjorie escaped this misery by having a clever fellow, Jack Elderby, fall in love with her. Then follows the usual taffy about supposing her to be poor when he fell, &c., but now that he had sixty millions he would still try to put up with her—and so they were married. The tone of the tale is elevated and the morale is good; the characters are, in spite of some exaggeration, human beings. Remember that by the use of the simplest language you can describe the most extraordinary affairs much more forcibly than can be done by the use of eccentric or extraordinary words. There is a slight tendency in this writer towards the use of the latter.

Socrates was the first to teach men the terrible power of questions in the eliciting of knowledge or in the exhibition of ignorance. Another philosopher, Franklin, has illustrated at a much more recent period the same power. A properly framed series of questions, then, it cannot be denied, must elicit truth or show the lack of truth. This is illustrated in our courts every day. This is preliminary to the

discussion of the construction of a book by Miss Josephine L. Abbott, of the Young Ladies' School, Benefit street, entitled "Outlines for the study of Art." The book grew out of the daily school work of this accomplished teacher, and was designed specially for use in her classes. It is divided into three divisions, Architecture, Sculpture, and Painting, the latter section being by far the most elaborate in its treatment. A short preliminary essay precedes each subject, followed not exactly by questions, but rather by suggestions, ten or twenty in number, and carefully designed to exhibit when written out, a history and critical analysis of the work of the subject or character under treatment. The sources from which the pupil may draw her answers to the suggestions are pointed out with each series of suggestions, and every other page in the book is left blank for the pupil to use in writing out her answers to the suggestions. When she has done

this, the pupil has acquired, just so far as she has done it well, a good knowledge of the study which she is pursuing. Miss Abbott's book is simply "Outlines,"—don't forget that,—but when these outlines are filled out the history becomes complete, and your daughter becomes educated. It is constructed upon a purely philosophical principle, to wit, the teaching the art of investigation, which is the motive power in the acquisition of all knowledge. Miss Abbott cannot educate your daughter. Your daughter must educate herself. All that Miss Abbott can do is to teach her what to investigate, and how to do it, (and in this instance she informs the pupil where.) This being done, your daughter is prepared to leave schools and begin her career in the wide world in the acquisition of learning. Miss Abbott's "Outlines" is designed for her young ladies or others similarly situated, but its use for "graduates" like ourselves, is at once apparent. The system or method so ingeniously arranged is just as applicable to every other subject as it is to Art, and may be made as effective. It is the method which the pupil needs, and this she acquires by intuition.

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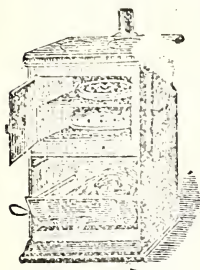
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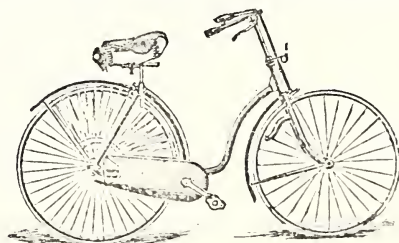


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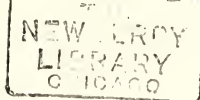
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SATURDAY, NOV. 7, 1891.

VOL. 8.
No 23.

BOOK NOTES for October 10 asked the librarians of some of the large libraries to examine certain books with reference to the discovery of the fact of the admission of Roger Williams, the founder of Rhode Island, to membership in the Royal Society. Having failed to elicit information from Harvard University Library, it did not think it worth while to apply at Brown University, wherein lay its mistake, since the librarian of that University, Reuben A. Guild, LL. D., has in a long and excellent communication to BOOK NOTES clearly stated the case. He finds a Mr. Roger Williams was admitted February 17, 1663-4,—this from Thompson's Hist. Roy. Soc.; but in Birch's Hist Roy. Soc. he finds, January 27, 1663 4, "Mr. Roger Williams was proposed candidate by Sir Robert Moray at the desire of Sir Paul Neile, the latter not being present. Feb. 17 the council met and Mr. Williams was admitted." This however did not satisfy Mr Guild as to the identity of this person with the founder of Rhode Island. He therefore made a further search for the purpose of discovering any action of the person elected which could be traced to or identified with the founder of Rhode Island. He found that the person elected was made a member of the Committee of Mechanical Invention, and also a member of the Committee for Histories of Trade. This would indicate, so Mr. Guild thinks,

that the Roger Williams who was elected was at the time (1664) a resident of London, and was therefore not the founder of Rhode Island. This is a neat piece of historical criticism, and with it BOOK NOTES is wholly in accord. Since this was written Mr. Guild has made further confirmation of the position which he had taken. It is this: Under date February 17, 1663 4, now 1664, "Mr. Williams was desired to bring in his Observations of the Curiosities and Rarities of England." This of course could not have had reference to the founder for the reason that on the 1st March, 1663-4, thirteen days later, Roger Williams attended the first session of the General Assembly under the charter of Charles the Second, at Newport and was requested to transcribe the charter.

The "Democrat" again pays BOOK NOTES the compliment of editorial mention. It still disagrees however with BOOK NOTES in that it defies precedents in courts of equity; but that it cannot like a court make a decree there would be small hope for poor BOOK NOTES. As a matter of fact BOOK NOTES had regarded the "Democrat's" application of the law of gravitation to such cases as defilements of the Pawtuxet river as a joke, but the latest discussion by the "Democrat" forbids that conclusion. It is not possible

that among the members of the Rhode Island Bar there is a lawyer who would plead in defence for defiling a river the law of gravitation; but if there is such an unmitigated ass, there is surely no court which could listen. Either BOOK NOTES did not make itself clear concerning the Holsman case or the "Democrat" has misread what it said. The "Democrat" at all events wholly misunderstands, or at any rate wholly misrepresents the case. Finally, the "Democrat" says "that the city officials themselves believed that the compulsory theory would not 'hold water' is evident from the fact that they decided to pay the large sums (three thousand dollars to the Crompton Company among others) which BOOK NOTES quotes rather than test the matter in the courts." Not quite so evident as the "Democrat" thinks. City Solicitor Van Slyck officially informs BOOK NOTES that he advised the city officially against these payments, and urged the prosecution of polluters, but that the said officials thought it better policy to pay these men than to expose them by a *public* prosecution. The italic here is the Solicitor's. It is not the mere "*shoo*," as the "Democrat" calls it, of the Providence Water Works which will "eliminate" a reeking privy from having the contents of its vaults washed daily down the throats of the citizens of Providence; but a decree in equity will have a wonderful effect upon what the "Democrat" seems to consider the "riparian rights" of the peaceful but nasty dwellers along the banks of the Pawtuxet.

Messrs. Lee & Shepard have issued in their Good Company Series, "His Marriage Vow," a novel published many years ago, written by Mrs. Caroline Fairfield Corbin. This is the structure of the story: Chester Elms was married to his wife Marion and they lived happily together. He had a friend, Cecil Denney, who also was married to *his* wife Lucia. This latter pair had a little son whom

they named Chester Elms Denney. Then poor Denney died and left his wife Lucia a widow. Chester Elms presently discovered and said to Mrs. Denney, that in the variety of women "whom God had made He had never made another like you." And Lucia said to him, "Why did God make just one such man (as you are) and never any more?" and then Chester Elms kneeled before the widow of his friend and said, "such love as I could offer you to night would be no insult, but a *sacramental* gift. I want you Lucia, I want you—you are just to comfort me." In the next block dwelt his sick wife Marion, and to her he now repaired. "She folded him tenderly in her arms, their two hearts beating against each other in *prayerful* silence," and with the dust from Lucia's carpet still sticking to the knees of his pantaloons, said to his own wife—"beautiful, no woman is half so fair, an angel out of heaven might shrink in comparison, and yet your beauty is the least of your attractions." This is a veritable incident from the book, which Mrs. Corbin says she always preferred to call "A Search for a Soul." It looks to BOOK NOTES a good deal more like a search for a body than a search for a soul, and the fellow who enters into such a search in such a way, is more likely to lose his own than to find another soul. When a woman does that kind of business she perils, so far as men are concerned, her social standing; why should we treat men otherwise? No.—this is the kind of domestic morality, in fiction or in real life, which BOOK NOTES does not like. Let us have social relations which are intelligent and rational, but not of this kind.

Mr. Ingersoll Lockwood comes with another capital Christmas book for young people. It is entitled "Extraordinary Experiences of Little Captain Doppelkop on the Shores of Bubbleland," a handsome quarto, full of clever pictures. This book, like the two by the same writer which

have preceded it, is an extravaganza just as a fairy tale is an extravaganza, only a great deal more so. I read them (his other books) myself, and am not ashamed to confess it, with the greatest delight. Mr. Ingersoll Lockwood is a man of genius. There is an absurdity of possibility in the situations which he conceives which is unique in American literature, pleasing alike to children and to men. This is not true of all books of this character. It is written in excellent English, as fresh as a May morning and as bright as a daisy. Give it to the children for Christmas. Now here is a bit of advice for yourself: Throw aside the debased and debasing fiction of the day, which you say you read only for amusement, and take up this grotesque and quaint and healthful book. It will do you more good than any novel written within ten years. Lee & Shepard publish it.

There comes from Lee & Shepard a little book entitled "Lorita," an Alaskan maiden, by Susie C. Clark. In what class of literature to place it Book NOTES does not know; it is neither history, nor poetry, nor fiction; it must be an advertisement for some transportation company; but what a horrible piece of work it is! a mass of adjectives, adverbs, and past participles, violating every rule of composition both in grammar and good taste. It purports to be a visit to Alaska, made chiefly in a steamship. Speaking of this vessel the author says, "What a strange creature a ship is?" A creature must possess life; a ship is a construction, not an original creation. In speaking of this ship which was named the "Queen," the author says, "the majestic 'Queen' who so proudly walks her chosen realm."—"the princely steamer which speeds these waters floats as the eagle sails the upper air,"—"it glides as if on castors,"—"did ever steamer tread so royal a path of gold,"—"detached icebergs float all about the silent

'Queen,'"—"the 'Queen' drops anchor in a placid harbor which lies like a smiling dimple on the rugged face of nature." Thus the "Queen" walks, speeds, floats, sails, glides, and treads a path of gold; the "Queen" is feminine, and "princely" which is masculine, and "it" which is neuter gender; what would an iceberg be if it were not "detached"? and how can you use the relative pronoun "who" as applied to a thing constructed, for instance, to a ship? Many writers fall into habits of using certain favorite words on all occasions. Such a word with this writer is "environment." Here is an illustration: "Was ever sunset seen like this, in environments so grand and strange." The word means that which environs, or surrounds; is a sunset something which can be surrounded, or environed, or which has environments? But here is something still better, descriptive of the sunlight on an iceberg: "The god of day, prime manager of dramatic effects in nature's pageant, turns a varied flood of calcium lights full upon this grand spectacle, and admiration is lost in spell-bound awe and adoration." That is positively stunning. These are faults of composition, but here is one of statement. In speaking of the childhood of Lorita the author says, "he listened to the rollicking merriment of the birds who (another wrong use of a relative pronoun) flew about her." A little further on (p. 32) the author says, "the absence of all human life, almost of bird life, is the deforming feature of the trip; an occasional eagle or raven (not specially song birds) sails across the blue ether." Here are two statements, one of which cannot be true. One thing more: the use of the word "across" means that the birds sailed *on* the blue ether. Book NOTES thinks the birds must have passed through the ether. This book ought to be introduced into the public schools, on the same principle that light-houses are built along the coasts.

An instrument now known as the Narragansett Patent, bearing date December 10, 1643, is in the archives of Massachusetts. It purports to have been issued by the Parliamentary Commissioners, and it granted jurisdiction of all the lands which now form the State of Rhode Island, to the Colony of Massachusetts Bay. Three months later, March 19, 1643, the Providence Patent was granted to Roger Williams. It covers the same territory which the pretended former grant covered, and almost in the same words. This instrument (the so-called Narragansett Patent) was known to Roger Williams, to Samuel Gorton and the men of that time, and possibly to Francis Brinley at a later period, at all events Brinley mentions it; but from that time to about 1856, more than a hundred and fifty years, all knowledge of it was lost to writers of history. In January, 1857, it was printed in full in the N. E. Hist. Gen. Register. Its genuineness was at once questioned, and an acute discussion followed in the Massachusetts Historical Society, Charles Deane maintaining its genuineness and Thomas Aspinwall contending that it was a fraud. The argument by Mr Aspinwall was in effect pulverization of the arguments for genuineness; but in one point Mr. Aspinwall failed to present the case clearly, and yet this was one of the strongest points which could have been made against it. BOOK NOTES will suggest this point: Mr. Aspinwall states, (Remarks, p. 6.) that the instrument required the signatures of a majority of the Commissioners. This is true—(Hazard's State Papers, I, p. 533.) This necessity of a majority is not stated in the Narragansett Patent, but it is stated in the Providence Patent.—(R. I. Hist. Col. 4, p. 222.) Then Mr. Aspinwall says, and correctly, that "the Patent having only nine signatures, one less than a majority, is therefore, and always was, a nullity."—(Remarks, p. 9) Just here is the obscurity. The document gives the names

of the Commissioners, seventeen in number,—nine is a majority of seventeen,—how then is the Patent invalid? Mr. Aspinwall does not explain it. The document itself presents a list, thrice repeated, of the Commissioners, always *seventeen* in number, and bearing nine signatures, on its face it appears to have been signed by the requisite number; but there were *eighteen* Commissioners—the name of John Pym is suppressed in each of the three lists in the instrument,—and this is proof of intentional fraud on the part of Rev. Thomas Welde, who obtained it. Welde being certain of but nine members, perpetrated the fraud, thinking doubtless it would not be discovered before possession of Rhode Island had been actually obtained.

The third novel in the Broadway series of new English copyright novels has been published. It is "Pretty Kitty Herrick." Pretty Kitty was the daughter of an English Squire, one of a class of sporting gentlemen who pursued the "noble science of fox hunting." Horses and hounds were his morning, his noon and his evening pastime, and Pretty Kitty rode with her father, as daring a rider as rode to the hounds in Hertfordshire. This is a story of her riding and love-making, written by Mrs. Edward Kennard, an adept in this kind of novel writing. Were I writing a story like this, and should I describe my heroine as "possessing few claims to positive beauty," I wouldn't call my novel "Pretty Kitty Herrick," even if she did have a "soft kittenish face." Still, the novel is a very clever sporting story,—but no kittenish faced ladies for BOOK NOTES.

The President of the Maverick National Bank, Mr. Asa Potter, might with propriety issue a new edition of a little book written by his grandfather while serving a sentence in our State prison, and which my excellent friend Robert Sherman printed in 1838, entitled "Admonitions from the Depths of the Earth."

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., NOV. 7, 1891.

There comes from Lee & Shepard a little book entitled "Glimpses at the Plant World," by Fanny D. Bergen. It is not a botanical treatise, and yet it is botanical in character. It selects subjects, or objects, and then discourses upon them. It is written for the unscientific, the wayward-walkers of the woods and fields. It tells of walking ferns, and linen plants, and winged steeds, and stick-tights and such things,—just what everybody sees and don't recognize as they walk a-field. How much breath I have expended in urging people to buy such books, and the pens which I have worn out in describing them would pay for the books, to say nothing of right arms lamed in writing. This little book will not teach Botany to you, but it will amuse and interest you very greatly, if you are one to whom all nature speaks a various language.

A little book comes from Lee & Shepard entitled the "Abbess of Port Royal," and other French studies. It is in fact a collection of articles contributed to periodicals, and relating to French social life, or French literature, written by Maria Ellery Mackaye. They are very cleverly written, and give a good illustration of the good things hidden away in those ephemeral things—periodicals. The first paper gives the experience of Jacqueline Arnould, who at the age of nine years was by fraud made Abbess of Port Royal. It is a story which suggests at every page the similar experience led by the famous Sister Theresa, which has been so often told. Convent life is not the proper life for women, and that is its only moral. The paper on Beaumarchais is exceedingly clever; but for a half hour of downright refreshment read what Mrs. Mackaye has written concerning French women before the revolution. This book is capitally good reading.

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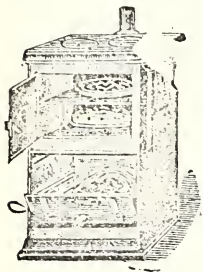
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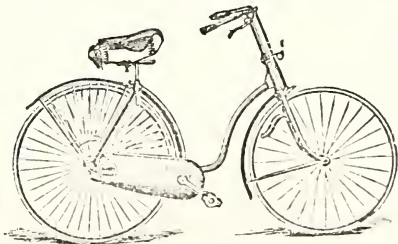
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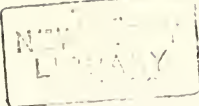
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SATURDAY, NOV. 21, 1891.

VOL. S.
No. 24.

The Narragansett "Historical Register" for April has an article concerning the capital city of Rhode island, a subject which it says has engaged the attention of a "curious gentleman." This cannot of course refer to the writer of BOOK NOTES, for the reason that his essay concerning the matter did not appear until July 18th following, nearly four months later. Had the writer observed it when discussing the subject in July he would certainly paid to it the courtesy of attention. The "Register" article is as follows:

"The Capital city of Rhode Island has engaged the attention of a curious gentleman, but as we view it he has not very clearly defined this word. The government of Rhode Island was inaugurated at Newport in 1663, and has remained so annually to the present day. It looks to us this settles the question in favor of Newport. An adjournment of the Assembly to Providence does not make that city the capital. A strict construction of the charter makes Newport the capitol. It is true all the State offices are in Providence, also that all the "Legislatural" and Executive business is done here, except that pertaining to election, special acts, and such legislative business as may happen to come up at the time. This is enough, however, to entitle Newport to the honor."—Narragansett Historical Register, April, 1891, p. 139.

Had this paragraph been intended for myself I should have discussed it some what after this manner: This person

declares Rhode Island to have but one capital just as myself subsequently did, but he declares it to be Newport, while I had declared for Providence—all other writers and map makers persist in giving us two capitols. He says that a "strict construction of the charter makes Newport the capital."—"makes" is in the present tense—how can any construction of the charter, an instrument dead for nearly fifty years, determine the present capital of Rhode Island? This person says "the curious gentlemen has not very clearly defined his word." What this means I do not know, but it is another evidence that I cannot be intended by the term "curious gentleman," because I undertook to define no word; possibly I ought to have defined the word "capital" in its political sense. I will let greater authorities define it, thus: *Capital*, says the "Century Dictionary," means "the city or town which is the official seat of a government." Murray's "New England Dictionary" says: *Capital* means "the head town of a country, province of state." Now how does the present situation and political condition fulfil the requirements of either definition? Suppose the votes were counted and proclaimed from Wionkeige Hill, would Wionkeige be the capital of the State? No,—in spite of this dissenting opinion, BOOK NOTES still maintains that Providence alone

fulfils the requirements of a capital. It is the only capital of Rhode Island. Since the coming historical student will be certain to study Book NORRES, it should here be noted that the April number of the Register was issued six months later than that date, in October, and I am the "curious gentleman" to whom it refers.

It is now some years since the History of the Providence Stage, written by Charles Blake, became one of the rare and much sought books, not only in Providence, but throughout the country; copies went up in price from \$2.00, the original price, to (I believe in a single instance) \$17.00. This fact suggested to Mr. George A. Willard, the re-issue of Mr. Blake's book, which came down to 1860, with such continuations as would bring the history down to a recent time, in fact to 1891. This Mr. Willard has done, the book being in octavo form and containing 200 pages. A limited edition only has been printed, and the book not being stereotyped, will soon become as scarce as the former publication became. Mr. Willard, who re-issued Mr. Blake's book, did so with the full consent of its author, and to Mr. Blake has dedicated his work. Mr. Willard has given a very full and very carefully prepared history from 1860 down, with sketches of the most eminent players, who have appeared in Providence, and thus those, who during the last thirty years have spent evenings with Davenport, and Wallack, and Charlotte Cushman, and Fanny Davenport, and Mrs. Scott Siddons, and hundreds more, will live again the delight of those splendid nights. It will be just twenty years' ago, the 4th of next month, (December,) since the Providence Opera House was opened, and Col. Van Zandt, and Mayor Doyle, and Manager Henderson, and Governor Lippitt tired us out with interminable speeches, but when Isadore Cameron, and Ada Monk and the Rainsfords, and Anita Harris came before us,

how the time flew. It was in his speech upon this occasion that Governor Lippitt made a *lapsus linguae*, slip of the tongue, at which I have not yet ceased laughing; but the instantaneous effect of such a thing upon an audience was something of which I had before no conception; the whole audience instantly took it in, and with admirably good sense as instantly smothered their amusement. This incident is not preserved in literature, but it ought to be.

There comes from Boston a book with this significant title: *White Slaves, or the oppression of the worthy poor*. It was written by Rev. Louis A. Banks, pastor of a church in South Boston. If there is one place in this world more fitting than another for the production of such a book, that place is Boston; but what a tale of outrage and of suffering it tells; let the New Englander of to-day look back over the two centuries of his legislative work, and beholding its results, point to it with pride if he can. It is legislation pure and simple, which has produced these results. All the twaddle talked about industry and economy had best come to an end, devoid as it is of every element of truth. The plain truth is that these "worthy poor," as the learned divine calls them, the "*White Slaves*," of Boston, are now, and always have been, the beneficiaries of the Protection of Home Labor System of this country. The result of this system has brought these "worthy poor" within reach of the grinding oppression of landlords. The last part of this proposition is sufficiently clear to the faithful pastor, but he lacks the courage to clearly enunciate the fact. Unlike Nathan he fears to offend these David's by telling them to their faces thou art the men. The very epithet, "worthy poor," is a disgrace to civilization; its correlative is the "unworthy rich." The only way in which the modern civilization can be saved from dis-

grace is by showing that these epithets are positive contradictions in terms. Of course the end will come, but the danger will be that when it comes retribution will be terrible. Why not in time endeavor to prevent another bloody revolution? Then it was for the black slave; next time it will be for the white slave. The revelations of this book are simply awful, and yet we all knew them before, and to our everlasting disgrace turn the other way and do nothing to remedy the wrong. Aye! there's the rub—the remedy,—what is the remedy? This thoroughly awakened preacher thinks he sees the remedy and mildly suggests it, but like the moonshine it seems feeble and evanescent. With an incurable cancer why dally with catnip? either apply the surgeon's knife, or die with decency. The lack of this book is virility, the need of the time is, men of the stuff, which John Knox and Martin Luther were made of. In God's good time they will be here. Lee & Shepard publish it.

Since the emancipation of the negro slaves as a result of the Southern Rebellion, there have been several discussions, made by negroes, of the conditions, social or political, of their race here in the United States,—to the end that these conditions may be improved, and the serf become a citizen. The Rev. Alexander Crummell, Rector of St. Luke's church, Washington, D. C., has by way of lectures or addresses, entered largely into this discussion. These ephemeral productions have been gathered into a volume and published by Willey & Co., of Springfield, Mass. The book is finely issued and has nearly five hundred pages; among which are discussed these subjects: Need of new ideas and new motives; Race problem; Black woman of the south; Right mindedness; Common sense in schooling; Dignity of labor. &c. The e papers are characterized by clear-

ness of statement, simplicity, and that which naturally follows—strength. They are a credit to both the head and heart of their author, who has seen service in the Southern States and also in Liberia, and is now a man of many years, overflowing with the poetry and history which in his long pilgrimage he has gathered, and with which he now ornaments his literary productions.

The *Squirrel Inn*, which has been running through the "Century," has been published by the Century Company in their characteristically fine form. It was written by Mr. Frank Stockton, who is the master of his own school in literary composition. What he writes is of course fiction, but it is unlike anybody else's fiction. Mr. Stockton assumes the grotesque in literature, even to the straining of natural characteristics. He has a wonderful facility in the invention of eccentric situations, some of which are sufficiently amusing, and all are entertaining. His books are just the things for a tired lawyer to pick up after a hard day's work, or a clergyman after a hard Sunday with three well studied sermons.

"The Heirs of Bradley House" is the name given by Miss Amanda Douglas to her latest story. "Miss Douglas is sure of a wide and hearty welcome whenever she comes before the public. This is her twentieth novel, and yet her hand has not lost its cunning nor her imagination its power to create. There is the same ingenuity in the construction of the plot, the same abundant resources in its development, and the same power to arouse an absorbing interest that marks all her work. There is nothing "catchy" in its opening pages, yet there is a charm in it that leads the reader on and on. It is strong, earnest, intensely interesting, graphic in portraiture, and vivid in description."

A year or two ago there came a book for Christmas entitled "Grandmother Grey." It was an oblong royal octavo in form, and beautifully illustrated. Now "Grandmother Grey" has very properly a companion; it is "Grandfather Grey," issued in precisely the same form as the former poem, and like it charming in the quaint and simple homeliness of its composition. It sings of love and other ancient things; the old meeting-house with the beetling sounding board, and the bass viol choir, and the pretty faces of the girls in poke bonnets, and the nooning intermission, with all that that means; and the village school, with Huldah at the head of the first class; and the apple bees, and the spelling school, and the walks home, with Huldah's face well hid in the puffs of her "punkin" hood, and the denouement, &c. &c. This book is a long ways ahead of the companion to it, which was in some ways I then thought just a trifle crude. All that is gone here, and Mrs. Kate Tennett Woods has thrown her own soul into her new poem, which in its depth of feeling will find an echo in every loving heart. I do not often puff either books or other things, and I am not now doing it, but I will just here remark that these illustrations are a credit to American art.

The new Manual of Parliamentary Law, prepared specially for the use of women in the multiplicity of societies and other forms of political organization among women, differs from all other similar manuals in that it gives practical illustrations of the operation of rules. A supposed debate with the rulings is given, which simplifies the matter of understanding very much. A woman who is diffident learns here quickly how to begin action in an assembly. Women are very much like men. Montaigne I think says, as a matter of fact there is no difference; hence I have been considering why a book of this kind was to be

specially prepared for women, and if so, how and why different? and I have come to the conclusion that this book is adapted for the use of the average man just as well as it is for women. There is scarcely a man in the General Assembly who could not learn lots of new ideas (to him) from this book, written by Harriette A. Shattuck, and published by Lee & Shepard.

Mr. John Bartlett has issued a new and somewhat enlarged edition of "Familiar Quotations." In this book at page 596 he quotes the first verse of the ballad *Old Grimes*, and credits the authorship of the same to Mr. Albert G. Greene. Mr. Greene is not the author of the verse, a fact of which I have twice informed Mr. Bartlett, and have shown him the evidence, consisting of Mr. Greene's own denial. In the face of these facts, to repeat his error becomes something akin to wilful misrepresentation.

It is gratifying to BOOK NOTES to note the fact, that as many copies of each issue are now sold on the streets of Boston as are sold there of the Providence *Journal*; but what an abominable amount of lying is daily told of the enormous circulation attained by certain papers! sworn affidavits are made in which there is not even the semblance of truth; this "sworn" circulation goes directly from the publisher to the newsdealer, and from that individual to the junk dealer without the intervention of even a desultory reader.

Lee & Shepard sends to BOOK NOTES one of the prettiest of *Calendars* for 1892. It is made from designs by J. Pauline Sunter, in colors, but most delicately, new withal, printed on card board, with a little silver chain, and a ring by which to suspend it. The last cardboard represents a cherub in pink and sepia, presenting a rose to a damsel, with these words: Madam, my compliments, I am 1892.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., NOV. 21, 1891.

So far as mercantile morals are concerned we honest people have pretty generally agreed that the liquor dealers, as we call them, illustrate in themselves the quintessence of business rascality; but if the recent developments concerning the sale of milk here can be relied upon, that eighteen out of every twenty milk-sellers are really selling us water and taking our money for milk, it is evident that the liquor dealers can no longer alone wear the wreath of rascality. Whatever else we have urged against them, we never have accused them of being thieves and pickpockets in anything like such proportions in numbers. The minute an officer begins to stir in his office to execute the laws which it is his sworn duty to execute, the *Journal* goes for him, just as it did for Coleman. BOOK NOTES warns Inspector Perkins that he must be on the lookout for a situation, for the *Journal* has dis-

covered that he is earnestly endeavoring to execute the laws touching the sale of milk and his official days are numbered. Must we come to the conclusion that the word integrity has no longer any use in descriptions of methods of business?

Whatever else you may say about the books published by the Century Company, you *must* say that they are issued in excellent taste, nothing garish or tawdry offends the eye. *Marjorie and her papa* is a perfect illustration of this truth. It is a pretty quarto for very young children, capably illustrated and written by Lieut. Fletcher. Marjorie, the little heroine, is, in her mental make up, of the Lord Fauntleroy type, but younger. Lieut. Fletcher would do well to work a trifle further, the idea which in this child he exhibits, every one, however cynical he may wish us to believe he is, likes such things; but then look at the last illustration in the book, what a world of poetry there is in it! the Lieutenant, with Marjorie asleep in his arms, walking towards the setting sun. Every book seller here has, or ought to have, this charming little book.

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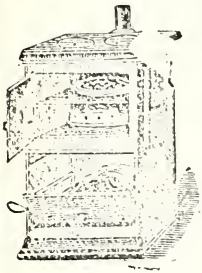
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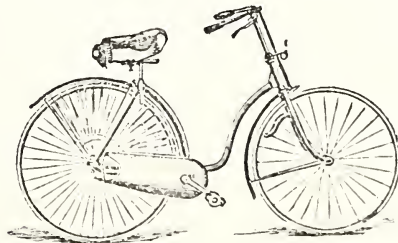


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} SATURDAY, DEC. 5, 1891.

VOL. 8.
No. 25.

FOOLING WITH THE TIGER.

If it were not so serious a question it would be positively laughable to note the way in which the *Telegram* and the *Journal* handle it—the Pollutions of the Pawtuxet. The recent periodical scare about Typhoid induces each paper to publish an article. The *Telegram* with righteous indignation pitches into some Belgian and Italian women (mill workers in some way, of course,) at Natick, who once a week do the family washing in the river, but the *Telegram* fails to note the bleach-works washings and barrels of human feces which are dumped every day into the stream by the wealthy owners of mills. The *Journal's* article is a literary curiosity—no meaning whatever attaching to certain paragraphs; they are simply meaningless, incoherent jumbles of words. But there are things in it worth the consideration of men and women. Let me note a few of them, “Commissioner Smith (by whose connivance the Journal Company sunk a well in a public high way) said to-day that it would surprise the public to learn who some of the troublesome ones were; they were wealthy residents of this city, and had an influence in polluting the river through ownership of mills.” What a confession! The Commissioner has knowledge of the pollution to wit, evidence, and knows the owners

of the mills from which he says that the pollutions come, and does nothing,—but talks. For twenty-three years the city government has permitted this terrible nuisance, in fact a terrible danger, to continue. It is in the power of the Commissioner, with the assistance of the Supreme Court, which cannot be refused, to stop any one of these mills from a continuance of this abominable outrage in one week. Why does he not do it?

The statement of Dr. Swarts, if really made by him, demonstrates his unfitness for the office which he holds. In effect, he said that he had searched the banks for a residence where typhoid existed, from the privy vaults of which feces could pass into the river; he was unable to find a typhoid fever patient's residence where the feces flowed *directly* into the stream; but he found one such case where the vault was 15 feet from the river (only 15 feet) with no overflow to the water, and he came home satisfied that the prevalence of typhoid was not the result of impregnation with feces of typhoid patients. Would the leaching from this vault, only 15 feet, into the river, be any more extraordinary than the washings of night soil spread over the low lands below Natick, which somewhere in the Health Reports is suggested? The action of Dr. Swarts is simply fooling with the tiger.

Then the *Journal* says, "All this is suggestive, and when the "material" which enters into the vaults along the Pawtuxet is drawn from faucets in Providence it seems intolerable." Well! I should say so—but look at this consoling sentence, which follows: "Dr. Swarts vouches for the statement that the "materials" have been strained from the water in this city." Yes, strained, and so we do not drink the largest of the materials which come floating from the five story privies of these wealthy mill owners. Did ever anybody read a more disgusting statement in a public newspaper? Must there be a thousand dead before the City Government can be moved to action? Then comes the stereotyped phrase, the like of which BOOK NOTES has so often quoted from the Blue Books: "They (the city officers) are all emphatic in saying that every source of defilement should be swept out of existence." Then why not apply for injunctions? it will cost nothing, and nothing will be lost in case the Supreme Court refuses to grant them. There seems to be an impression that the riparian right to run a mill on the banks of a stream includes the right to erect a five story privy directly over the stream, and thus force a thousand mill hands to send their "rejectamenta," with the compliments of the wealthy owners, mixed "but strained," with our drinking water. It is clear that the City Government intends in serious earnestness to do nothing. Why, then, do you sleep? why do you not arouse to action, and settle the business without further palaver? It must come, and it cannot be too soon.

A Bill in Equity s'the thing;

'T will pinch the conscience of a king.

The Moon Hoax, as it is now called, is the greatest "sell" ever played upon the American people. It was an account of Great Astronomical Discoveries lately made by Sir John Herschel at the Cape

of Good Hope. It was published in the New York *Sun* in 1835, and was alleged by the *Sun* to have been taken from a supplement to the Edinburgh *Journal of Science*. It came out after a time, the slow sailing ships giving the opportunity, that it was a "sell" and written by Richard Adams Locke. It created the greatest interest among scientific people, and few doubted the genuineness of it. A pamphlet was published in Pawtucket by Sherman & Potter "at the request of scientific men" entitled, *Interesting Astronomical Discoveries made in the Moon by Sir John Herschel*. The astounding nature of the alleged discoveries may be gathered from some of the statements made in this Pawtucket pamphlet. "An object glass, 24 feet in diameter, weighing 14,826 pounds, was sent to Cape Town and mounted on posts 150 feet high; by the aid of this instrument Herschel ventured to declare his belief that he could study the *etymology* of the moon provided there are any insects there." This Pawtucket pamphlet was an abridgment of the *Sun* articles, rendered specially amusing from its peculiar blunders, a specimen of which is given above. It is rare.

Mr. Tilley's *Magazine of New England History* for October comes freighted with local historical lore. The paper of greatest interest to Rhode Island scholars is that by Charles Francis Adams on the Coddington School Lands at Braintree, Mass., reprinted in this magazine from the *Quincy Patriot*. The interest to us in this matter, is not in the School Lands, but in the way in which the Massachusetts Colony treated Mr. Coddington. The strong side light which this transaction throws upon the relations of Coddington with the Massachusetts Colony cannot fail in its effect in a reconsideration of Coddington's character by Rhode Island scholars, and Mr. Tilley has done well to reprint it. But there is another tale he tells wherein we differ. It ap-

pears in a communication signed, H. M. B., Salem, Mass., (presumably Mr. Henry M. Brooks). A letter to the Salem *Gazette* dated at Pawtuxet, R. I., June 1, 1790, says: "Last Saturday evening, as some boys were in a small boat fishing near Potawamscot at the mouth of the Pawtuxet river, a fine plump salmon, weighing exactly THIRTEEN POUNDS, leaped from the river into the boat; as the circumstance was rather uncommon for a fish *of its own accord* to spring from its native element into a boat, on the boys return it occasioned some conversation in the neighborhood; but what was the sensation excited the next day when the news of the adoption of the constitution arrived, and on comparing the time, it appeared that the very time that the salmon leaped into the boat, was the *moment* that the President announced to the convention at Newport that by their votes they had ratified the constitution," being the last of the THIRTEEN States to do so. This story is more wonderful than that recorded by St. Luke, 5, 6-8, in that there, the fishermen spread their nets, while here this little ceremony was not required, the fish coming into the boat "*of its own accord*" This proves that a Rhode Island fish has political knowledge; it knew what was going on at Newport thirty miles away; it knew its own weight, and that Rhode Island was the thirteenth state, and not less singular it noted time, for it knew the exact moment in which it must leap. All this is far more wonderful than anything in St. Luke; and yet it is given by a Massachusetts historical scholar and published in a sedate Rhode Island Historical magazine. Bah! such history as that is fit only for the Providence *Journal*; it is but another instance

"Of dropping buckets into empty wells,
And growing old in drawing nothing up."

That salmon were subsequently caught in this locality there is no doubt. The Providence *Gazette*, July 7, 1792, has this paragraph: "Yesterday morning a fine

salmon, weighing eighteen pounds, was caught above the great bridge, (now Market Square, the horse car depot,) *the first instance of that species of fish having been taken here.*"

But there is one thing here whereon let us discourse: The name Potawamscot, as given to a special locality. Mr. Tilley raises a question concerning it. So far as yet discovered, we have no Indian word in this form marking that locality; from its connection it must be intended for the word which has now assumed the form, Petaconset. This word is given by Dr. Parsons in two forms, and is defined by him (the worst of authorities in such matters) as the bottom lands or border meadows of the Pawtuxet river near the village of Pontiac. If the word meant bottom lands, possibly they were the beautiful meadows above Pawtuxet which had such a captivating influence upon William Harris and his coparceners.

A subscriber sends the following clipping from the Providence Journal of August 8, 1891, and asks if it is true:

THE DESCENDANT OF A PILGRIM.—In the cemetery at Tyler's Point, New Meadow Neck, opposite Warren, is the grave of Desire Kent, who was the granddaughter of Mary Chilton, the first of the Mayflower's passengers to step on Plymouth Rock. The inscription on the gravestone is as follows: "Mrs. Desire Kent, wdo. of Mr. Samuel Kent, Barrington, who was the first English woman's granddaughter born in New England, died Feb. 8th, A. D. 1762, aged about 94 years."

The subscriber suggests this couplet from the "Courtship of Miles Standish," (Household Ed. 1873, p. 202,) where John Alden is made to say,

"Yes, as my foot was the first that stepped on this
rock at the landing,
So, with the blessing of God shall it be the last at
the leaving."

No,—there is no truth in either statement; but the clipping from the "Journal" is unique in its errors. It was taken wholly from Fessenden's Hist. Warren, R.

1.. p. 118, but it does not present quite all the errors which Mr. Fessenden has perpetrated; errors which he admits that he "learned from her descendants"—always the worst of authorities. I note the following errors: Mary Chilton was not the first to leap on Plymouth Rock, nor was she the English grandmother of the first child born in New England. Sarah Winslow did not marry Edward Gray. Sarah married Miles Standish, the son of the first Miles, but Mary Winslow married Gray, and gave birth to Desire Gray, Nov. 6, 1651. If this Desire Gray was the Desire Kent mentioned in the paragraph, then instead of being "aged about 94 years," she would have been, allowing corrections of the calendar, 111 years, 2 months and 23 days of age. But they were not the same persons; for Desire Gray, the daughter of Edward and Mary [Winslow] Gray, was married to Nathaniel Southworth, of Plymouth, January 10, 1672. She gave birth to many children, (but none named Desire,) and died Dec. 4, 1690,—seventy-two years before her alleged death in 1762.

The story of the first landing is wholly a myth,—as a matter of fact, the tale of the landing of anybody on Plymouth Rock is unworthy of credit. It has been long since abandoned by historical students and relegated to the realms of poetry and fiction. Mr. James Savage thus discourses of the specific landing of Mary Chilton and of John Alden:

"Mary, who accompanied her father and mother, has by vain tradition been made the first to leap on Plymouth Rock, as that honor is also assigned to John Alden, when we know it is not due to either."—Savage Gen. Dict. v. 1, p. 379. Again—"John Winslow, brother of Edward, married Mary Chilton about 1627. She had come in the Mayflower, and in her favor circulates the ridiculous tradition that she was the first of English parentage that leapt on Plymouth Rock; but this worthless glory is equally well or ill claimed for John Alden; neither of

them is entitled to that merit."—Savage Gen. Dict. v. 4, p. 601.

Mr. Savage does not explain the reasons for his opinion, doubtless on the presumption that the readers would themselves understand the ground; but the *Journal's* paragraph shows that dense ignorance still exists concerning the matter, and BOOK NOTES will endeavor to explain it. The fundamental authority on this point is the "Journal" written by Governors Bradford and Winslow, which contains a "minute diary of events from the arrival of the Mayflower at Cape Cod, November 9, 1620," a document usually cited as Mourt's *Relation*; it is reprinted very accurately in Young's "Chronicles of the Pilgrims," to which, being more accessible, I refer my readers. "Upon the 9th of November, by break of day, we espied land which we decided to be Cape Cod, and so afterwards it proved." "At night, the wind being contrary, we put around again for the Bay of Cape Cod and upon the 11th of November we came to an anchor in the Bay." (Young, p. 117) "There we relieved ourselves with wood and water," (p. 119) "and fitted our shallop to coast the Bay to search for a habitation." Are we to suppose that Mary Chilton, then a girl, was sent on shore for wood and water? "The same day, November 11th, 1620, so soon as we could we set ashore fifteen or sixteen men, well armed." Still the girl Mary is not mentioned (p. 122). "Monday, the 13th November, our people went on shore to refresh themselves, and our women to wash." (p. 125.) There is no necessity of extending these quotations, sufficient having been shown to justify Mr. Savage in his opinion. In April 1821, a man named John Alden, died at Middleborough; a notice of his death appears in the Rhode Island *American*, for April 13, 1821; in this notice the claim for John, as being number one on Plymouth rock, is set up, how much earlier it appears I do not know; but not the least extraordi-

nary thing in this mass of error, is the fact, that the first authority cited by Mr. Fessenden for his story is Young's "Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers," the identical book from which I have taken the extracts given above,—a sad illustration of the methods of those who wrote New England History a half century ago.

Of course, BOOK NOTES has long suspected that President Andrews of Brown University was, if the truth were known, little better than he ought to be; the precise character of his wickedness had not yet become apparent, yet that it was sinister to the State was what everybody felt; but how each particular hair stood on end when I read in the *Providence Journal*, the staunch supporter of all former Presidents, this paragraph, which must have cost the young "editor" who wrote it such pangs of woe:

"The ridiculous proposition of President Andrews, of Brown University, promulgated on Friday evening, deserves prompt condemnation by every true friend of education. He advocated turning school-houses into luxurious palaces, and furnishing to the scholars daily a free lunch of the most expensive character. Every first-class bar-room in the civilized world has for years supplied both of these requisites without becoming a centre of thought or mental activity. If the gentleman referred to wishes an object lesson, let him take his senior class to New York for a few weeks and locate it in the Hoffman House bar-room. There he will find works of art and free lunches galore."

That which gives poignancy to these paragraphs is the fact that of all men here none are more competent to discourse on the proper method or necessity of education than the editorial writers of the *Journal*, illustrating in each succeeding issue the lack of one and the need of the other. Moreover, the explanations of these gentlemen as to what every first-class bar-room furnishes would pass in this community without endorsement. The city of Providence is again laid under

obligations to this faithful watcher over its own interests in the warning against this pestiferous Andrews.

The Hon. Amos Perry, LL. D., has issued in a handsome pamphlet, embellished with many portraits, an account of *An Official Tour* along the eastern coast of Tunis, made by himself while Consul at Tunis. Mr. Perry retired voluntarily from this consulate in 1867, hence this tour was undertaken upwards of a quarter of a century ago, to wit., in May, 1866. The tour extended from the city of Tunis by way of the cities Susa, El Gem and Sfax, by land, and thence by water to the island of Gerba, and so back again. We are inclined to regard the growth of American cities as abnormal, but here is Sfax which, when this tour was made, had a population of 10,000, now has a population of 25,000. By means of correspondence, and in other ways the ex-consul has maintained a connection with Tunis; and so has given in this tour the most recent accounts of the political situation, the manufactures, &c., which he finds easy means of using in comparisons. The social customs are cleverly illustrated by the experiences of the consular party, and the recalling of which must have been a source of great pleasure. While on the island of Gerba a ball was given in honor of the visit of the party. The description of this assembly of the elite of the island is very entertaining,—but there is one expression to which BOOK NOTES protests. Mr. Perry says "the females were arrayed in white, black, blue, &c., with crinoline, and without it, with hair curled, frizzled, braided, twisted, and one comely black-eyed Jewess displayed a huge waterfall." That to which BOOK NOTES objects is the stigmatizing of respectable women by the epithet, "females." Don't do it. Call them women, and ourselves, not males, but men. Mr. Perry's *Tour* is one of the finest pamphlets ever issued in Rhode Island.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Dec. 5, 1891.

I suppose that it is muscular Christianity, but somehow it reads queerly. The other day one of our city papers gave a minute account of a prize fight which never took place. The individual who, as the local paper said, was beaten on that Sunday morning, denied the soft impeachment in a letter closing with this paragraph:

"I am open to fight any 123 pound man in the country at any time. I fought Bobby Burns four years ago sixty-six rounds and won. I can be found at the Y. M. C. A. in Hartford where I am instructor."

The fifth in the series of Broadway novels, published by John A. Taylor & Co., New York, is entitled a *Hard Lesson*, written by E. Lovett Cameron. The lesson was in truth a hard one, but not positively unjust. While there are faults of composition which are almost comical, still the novel is a capitally good one, and won't hurt anybody.

Mr. Thomas H. Murray announces the publication of a book on the *Irish and their Descendants in Rhode Island*, a history of their services in Building, Defending, and Perpetuating the State. The book is to be in one volume of about 400 pages, and to cost \$2.50. Address Mr. Murray, P. O. box 1309. That there is field enough for such a study there can be no question. The Irish as a body did not come into the colony of Rhode Island as early as the English came; but in time they made up for any lack of attention in that way. I do not know the intended scope of Mr. Murray's book; but while I understand the requirements which he must of necessity feel to enlarge upon the beneficial results, both physical and material, which followed the recent advent of the race, so great to the State and so happy for the Irish, still I trust that that religious and educational impulse which followed the advent of Dean Berkeley and the Parson McSparran, both Irishmen will not be overlooked.

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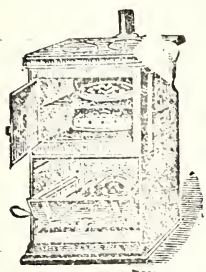
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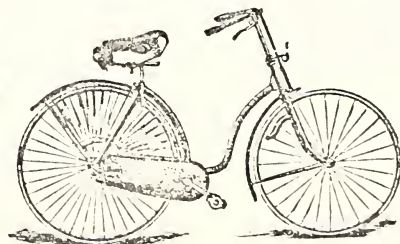
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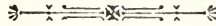


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Mr. Rider makes a detailed study of history thus outlined, with many interesting particulars, and as he is wont to produce in his excellent and very readable little magazine, which is a credit to Providence.—*Springfield Republican*.

Mr. Sidney S. Rider's *Book Notes* seldom fails to contain something curious or suggestive.—*Evening Post*.

Mr. Rider is still at the front with his *Book Notes*. Mr. Rider has the merit of fearlessness, and incessant industry; what he knows he knows, and what he believes he speaks.—*Light, Worcester, Mass.*

Mr. Sidney S. Rider, whose mind is a cyclopedia for everything connected with the past in Rhode Island, is continually making a look out for historical articles in the daily papers, and woe betide the unlucky wight who slips up on his facts; many a delightfully romantic story has he spoiled by knocking the bottom completely out of it with his cold facts; * * * he is a terror to reporters and to others who write historical articles, * * * [but he] has secured to the newspaper reader more accurate bits of local history.—*Boston Globe*.

Mr. Sidney S. Rider, the well-known bookseller and publisher of *BOOK NOTES*, usually knows what he is writing about. The *Boston Globe*, which says his mind "is a cyclopedia for everything connected with Rhode Island," hardly praises him too highly.—*Rhode Island Democrat*.

That element of endurance exhibited in Mary Mapes Dodge, her book, "Baby World," is conclusive proof that its foundations lie deep down among these, the roots of human nature. It was published long ago. I thought it then among the finest of books for the very least of us; time has ripened my experience, as age has mellowed the book itself, and to-day it comes again to me fresher and fuller and brighter than ever. It should be kept for sale, and doubtless is so kept, by every bookseller in Providence. The Century Company publish it.

The Cassell Publishing Co., Fourth Avenue, New York city, publish a series of novels and other things which they advertise as *Choice Copyright Fiction*. *BOOK NOTES* is a trifle curious to know what the company intends by this term, "choice, copyright fiction," as prefixed to a list of books, No. 64 of which is *Dead Man's Rock*, which has no copyright entry. Many other not copyright books included in the series. This may be either a blunder or an offence; but if the latter, does section 4963 of the U. S. Revised Statutes cover such cases?

Mr. J. O. Austin, the author of the "Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island," has just published a much smaller volume entitled, "The Ancestral Dictionary." It is constructed on the model of still another work by Mr. Austin; his "Thirty-three Rhode Island Families," which was a quarto in form, while the "Ancestral Dictionary" is an octavo. It contains sixty-four charts, giving the ancestry of men (and three women) of more or less consequence. At the close of the book are eight charts, upon which can be written the ancestry of any one prepared on the models presented. A person with this book can go back three generations. In case a person should wish to include his own family record, a chart must be employed for each individual. Within the scope prepared, I know of nothing better than this book

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VOL. 5.
No. 26.

The Abandonment of the Pawtuxet as a Source of Water Supply.

The people of Providence have been kept in almost absolute ignorance in the matter of the pollution of this water; not because the people were unwilling to exchange a pleasing illusion for an unpleasant reality, but because of political or pecuniary interests. The late Senator Anthony owned the mill at Anthony and he owned the *Journal*. The mill at Anthony was one of the worst offenders, but could anybody say so in the *Journal*?—Not much. But why do not the City Government take action? They have been iterating and reiterating for years but doing nothing; continually proposing to get new laws enacted but never applying those which they now have. Are these men stronger than the laws? Every obstacle is thrown by them in the way of those employed in the past to investigate, and whatever has been discovered has been suppressed. It is the bounden duty of the City Council to order the publication of these details in all their naked nastiness. The facts which have long been known to BOOK NOTES would appeal the stoutest stomach. The legal liability of the city is clear in two ways: The statute under which this water is brought in requires PURE water; the epi-

demic of typhoid in 1888 the Superintendent of Health declares came from Natick, and he declares that this water will inevitably carry the germs of this disease. A poor woman whose husband is the support of herself and three children, loses this husband by this disease after the continued use of this water—forced as he is by the city,—would not an action lie? Assuredly it would? Again, you are a taxpayer and an owner of an estate; the well which you have upon it has been closed by order of the Health Department, and by the Public Works Department you are obliged to receive this water, and you get what the Health Department has declared over and over to be a mixture of human faeces, barn-yard manures, sink drainage, pig-sty drippings—against this would there be in equity no remedy for you?—Most assuredly there would be. But the half has not yet been told. Commissioner Smith (so the *Journal* says) ‘thinks the public would be surprised if it knew the wealthy manufacturers who were guilty.’ BOOK NOTES suggests to the Commissioner that it won’t be the public who will be surprised; it will be the Commissioners of Public Works, who do nothing, and the wealthy manufacturers who do things every week which should consign them to this State Prison. This Pawtuxet water must be cleansed or it must be abandoned.

There comes to BOOK NOTES a book by Mr. H. C. Trumbull, entitled "Friendship the Master Passion." This extraordinary title is sufficient to at once attract attention from all of us who have looked upon Love as the master passion; more especially is this the case when we remember that Lord Bacon, the wisest and brightest of mankind, if Pope may be believed, declared that of Friendship there was but little of it in the world. This may convey to us but a low estimate of mankind, but it was said by a Philosopher of whom Mr. Pope said besides being the wisest and brightest, he was the meanest of mankind. Shakespeare has said that "Friendship was full of dregs." This admits the existence of friendship, and if existing must occasionally be pure. Napoleon, another good observer of the emotions declared that "Friendship is but a name." The summing up is that in the opinion of both Bacon and Shakespeare, the ablest exponents of the human passions who have ever lived, Friendship does exist among mankind. Friendship pure and unadulterated does exist; it is something more than an aspiration, or than a phantasy, which is ever alluring but always evading men. This book not only maintains the affirmative of the existence of Friendship, but claims that it is the mastering, overruling passion of men, and this position it undertakes to prove by citations of all that has been said either for or against Friendship, and also by giving accounts of such numbers of actual cases from the most ancient times, the times of Patroclus and Achilles down to the days of Charles and Mary Lamb, or William and Dorothy Wordsworth. These illustrations cover a vast range and illustrate every phase of friendships,—friendship between men, between men and their wives, between men and women without the marital relation, and other men and women not so constituted, and in fact in every relation of the human family. Not the least important in these

considerations, like all other discussions' is an agreement of the meaning of terms—Friendship, Love, Affection. It may be possible for a man to possess love enough for only one woman, and yet have friendship sufficient for two; a brother's affection for a sister may not be weakened by his love for his wife. I do not say that these things are not understood: what I claim is, that too low an estimate is put upon them; that the spiritual element is subordina'd to the merely sensual. It may be that the common understanding of friendships as now understood by many, and which understanding is contrary to all literature whether ancient or modern, is correct, but let us hope that it is not. There is something soothing to the soul in the mere consideration of the word; it is intangible, surely I cannot see it, but the day has never yet passed that I have not experienced the effects of it. Yes,—Friendship is to me one of the eternal verities. This book by Mr. Trumbull is indeed delightful; the heaviest drafts have been drawn upon all literature, not a secluded spot has escaped the searchings of this indefatigable scholar. Not only are the most celebrated subjects discussed, like that of Petrarch for Laura, or Dante for Beatrice, but those less known, like that of Gladstone for Catharine Glynne, and Baron Bunsen for Frances Waddington; but it is not this class of friendships alone which renders this book delightful; it is such a friendship as that which existed between Dean Colet and Erasmus: alas how the heart yearns for such a friend as those men were each to the other. It is the season for Christmas gifts, and while this book was not prepared specially for such use, it is nevertheless admirably adapted for such use in certain cases, for these reasons, it is unpretending, it is inexpensive, and yet sufficiently fine in appearance. It is fit only for men and women of sense, or at all events, such only can take it all in. It will hurt nobody, but it

will do more good to some than it will to others.

Whenever the question of the Single Tax proposition of Henry George is presented to the *Evening Telegram* it takes occasion to say that it is in serious opposition to the nefarious schemes of that individual. This, in consideration of the *Telegram* being the Roman Catholic organ in Rhode Island, and of the late Encyclical Letter of the Pope on the Henry George proposition, is not to be wondered at. The editor of the *Telegram* must write with one eye on Rome. Now then, in the issue of the *Telegram* of Nov. 25 is an editorial with the heading, "An Experiment in Taxation," in which is given an account, very meagre, still an account, of the system recently put in operation in New Zealand. This system the *Telegram* lauds to the skies; says it was "inaugurated under the firs of the Southern Cross," and that "it means that the workingman who wishes to secure for his family a home in that colony will not be obliged to part with the savings of a year to secure a site upon which to erect his dwelling." If the *Telegram* would some day take occasion to inform its readers in what the difference between Henry George's scheme which it violently condemns, and the New Zealand scheme which it so lavishly approves, consists. There are men, and I am one of them, who would like to have this little problem explained.

The Christmas number of *St. Nicholas* is in itself an exquisite illustration of the art of illustration. Certainly nothing has yet been produced at all comparable to it. The volume for 1892 begun with the November number; hence the Christmas number is the second in the volume for next year. Now is the time to subscribe; good things are promised for the coming year, and when the Century Company promises a thing they live up to its fulfillment.

The Publishers' *Weekly* of December 5 has an obituary of Mr. Burnham, the Boston dealer, in old Books, who died recently and kindly left because it was not current where he was going—a million of dollars—obtained by Mr. Burnham out of those people, who by settling in Boston made land rentable. The *Weekly* says Mr. Burnham's knowledge of books was intuitive. I don't know what that means, but I have labored under the impression that knowledge of nooks could be obtained only by study. There is a little story related by the *Weekly*, which illustrates Mr. Burnham's "knowledge of books" so perfectly that I must reproduce it. "Edward Everett came in to buy a certain book; the scholar found the old book on the shelf and hurried to Mr. Burnham with all anxiety for purchasing, evident in his face. Mr. Burnham's business instincts never erred; these books he had considered (in spite of his intuitive knowledge) valueless and so had marked them twenty-five cents each," but when Mr. Burnham saw Mr. Everett's trepidation (so unlike Old Monkbar's in the *Antiquary*, who haggled on a half-penny, lest by a too ready acquiescence in the dealer's first price he should be led to suspect the value Monkbar's set upon the volume') he promptly told Mr. Everett \$3.75 and Mr. Everett paid Mr. Burnham the money and it is now among the million of dollars in litigation. However, I may have been unable to understand the first proposition above, with this last one I have no difficulty. It wasn't book-selling, it was stealing.

The celebration of the Centennial of a Financial Institution is a thing altogether unique in Rhode Island, or even in this country; still such a thing took place here the other day when the Providence Bank saluted its friends on its hundredth birth day. The President of the Bank delivered an address and speeches were made, all which have been gathered

into a pamphlet sumptuously printed. It was altogether fitting that this should have been done. It was the beginning of an epoch in business affairs in Rhode Island. Commercial industries were to cease and manufacturing industries were to begin. The development is not even yet concluded. The story of the beginning of the Bank in some of its minute details, while not of sufficient dignity to be used in an address, still find a proper place in an article like this; the appeals for people to attend meetings at the State House in the Senate Chamber, the entire day until six o'clock at night, to induce the largest possible number to subscribe for stock; the long time given to subscribers in which to pay for stock; the appeals of the first cashier, Olney Winsor, to merchants to cash for each other, (when the bank was not open), checks, with the assurance that promptly at nine o'clock he would be on hand at the Bank and reimburse them; all these things I say read queerly in the light of another century. The list of original stockholders is given in the pamphlet; in the unwritten lives of these men lies the History of Rhode Island. What a story might I not write, but not now. BOOK NOTES in its humble way congratulates the men who do now so well what their fathers and grandfathers taught them so well to do. The Providence Bank is now and has always been a credit to Rhode Island.

Dr. Albert Hoffa, of the University of Werzburg, has prepared a "Scheme of the Antiseptic Method of Wound Treatment," which has been translated by Dr. Aug. Schnachner. It is the form of a chart, presenting at a single glance even in its minutest details, all the resources and methods of the greatest advances in medical and surgical knowledge ever made; one of the medical periodicals has thus summarized its uses much better than any layman could, and so BOOK NOTES reproduces them.

"This chart presents admirably the various chemicals and dressing materials used in antiseptic surgery, together with many formulæ and methods of preparation; the tables are well arranged, and should be exceeding useful, not only to the surgeon, but to the hospital resident and nurse, since here can be found at a glance not merely full directions concerning all that pertains to the antiseptic side of an operation, but specific instructions by means of which solutions, powders, drainage tubes, ligatures, sutures and dressing materials may be properly prepared. Thus we find, concisely but fully, given directions for cleaning the hands, for cleaning or preparing the sponges, for disinfecting instruments for making the various kinds of antiseptic gauzes, &c." Copies are for sale at 61 Snow street. Price fifty cents

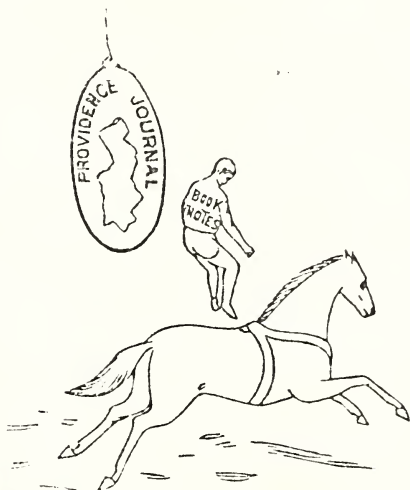
One of the most comical explanations of an Indian name which I ever remember seeing was given by somebody in the Providence *Journal* of the word Weybosset. The explanation was that it meant a cow path, thus Wey, a misspelling for Way, a path; and bosset which it was claimed was a corruption of the familiar name often given a cow, bossy. Those familiar with the locality, will remember the narrows of the Kickemuit river beyond Warren; the Indian name of that place may be found in Fessenden's *History of Warren*, p. 71. It is there spelled Weypoiset and defined as meaning the narrows, a definition which is affirmed by Dr. T. Hammond Trumbull, certainly the best authority in such matters in modern times; but Mr. Trumbull gives the spelling as Wapwayset, which he says means "at the narrow passage" or "crossing place" or a fording place. The application of the word is to the narrow passage of Providence river as it passes through the city beneath the bridge on Market Square, and remember how the stream a hundred years ago

broadened both above and below that point (see the map of 1803,) you will then be at no loss in understanding the derivation and meaning of Weybosset. The forte of the *Journal* is in its philology and in its discovery of Iron Land Plate Titles.

The exercises in connection with the presentation of the Ladd Observatory to Brown University have been printed in a neat and unpretending pamphlet. It was indeed a noble gift on the part of Governor Ladd; to a man who is pecuniarily able to execute and intellectually strong enough to conceive of such a purpose, its accomplishment must be a source of exquisite pleasure; the gift will confer lasting honor upon the man who made it. There is another thing in this unpretending pamphlet of which BOOK NOTES will speak. It is the opening speech of the Chancellor of the University, William Goddard. In the literature of Rhode Island there are few things which can equal and none which excel this admirable speech; classical in form, profound in sentiment, dignified in its simplicity, and of the exact length required for the occasion. It must through all time, like the observatory itself, be an object of delight to Rhode Island scholars. I have spoken of the delightful sensations which accompany the ability to confer such a benefaction as Herbert Warren Ladd conferred; no less delightful must be those of a man who can speak of these things in the language in which William Goddard spoke. Alas! that I can never experience such sensations.

A subscriber asks BOOK NOTES for a bibliographical account of the Publications of the "Bradford Club." This is one of those bibliographical conundrums which the ordinary bibliographies do not explain. BOOK NOTES suggests the excellent list prepared by the elder Sabin for the sale catalogue of the library of Mr. William Menzies, New York, 1875, under the word "Bradford."

The *Journal* reserves its compliments for President Andrews, of Brown University; it rarely bestows them upon others; while BOOK NOTES has often condescended to give it the courtesy of editorial mention, with one exception it has never returned the compliment; this exception has given BOOK NOTES so much pleasure that it publishes an illustrated edition of it. Here it is:



"The audience always applauds the living rider and cares little for the punctured impediments.—*Journal*, Sept. 24."

A person who had subscribed for the *Sunday Journal* for its local historical articles discontinued it under the criticisms of BOOK NOTES. This is altogether wrong, half the fun in reading the *Journal* is developed by having BOOK NOTES; you should take both. The *Journal* would no doubt club with you, but if it won't, BOOK NOTES can do the clubbing.

The *Journal* speaks of a "novel Circulating Library." BOOK NOTES would just inquire whether there now exists any other kind of a Circulating Library than a "Novel" one.

THE BOOK NOTES.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Dec 19, 1891.

BOOK NOTES has at last found one redeeming feature in the International "Protective Tariff" Copyright Law. It consists in the fact that such an utterly worthless novel as is *Back to Life*, by T. W. Speight, can be published by only one publisher and at only one price. We have just left a period when you could have bought Black's *Princess of Thule*, or any other first class modern English novel for ten cents, and have come to a time when such a piece of nonsense as *Back to Life* is offered to us at thirty cents, published (fortunately only) by John A. Taylor & Co., New York.

BOOK NOTES closes with this number its eighth volume. An index and a title page will be ready with the first number of the coming volume, and will be sent to all my subscribers.

The city government is soon to be changed in a portion of its personnel. We change men, but not methods; what is needed is a change of methods. Nothing will ever reconcile me to the monopolistic theory in matters of government; but if anything ever could it would be the terribly costly experiments we are now making in a government of the people, by those who represent (in theory) the people. Of course in time a reaction will come, but one becomes impatient. A fair illustration of the management of the city business was given in the recent investigation of a department. In the evidence we read of one gentleman, who charged fifty dollars for his individual service, audited, collected and spent the money; and all for a piece of work which under the office which he held, he was bound to do for the remuneration which the law gave to him. The excuse of the *Journal* in this affair, was that it "was only a very small one," which is just the excuse advanced by the girl who gave birth to the result of a *faux pas*.

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| " 21, 1888, " " | - | - | 1,682,217.74 |
| " 19, 1889, " " | - | - | 2,246,981.20 |
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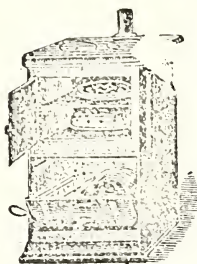
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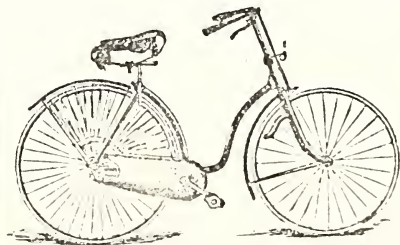
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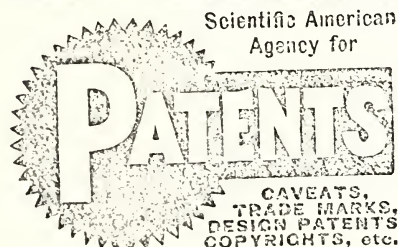
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